

# BUILDING DESIGN

No 780

The weekly newspaper for the design team

FRIDAY MARCH 28 1986

## Cloudy future as GLC expires

THE great tradition of the Greater London Council architects department came to an end this week with the abolition of the authority. Formerly a department of the London County Council, it had been shaping the city since the 1890s.

But as the department died there was scarcely a whimper, let alone a bang (albeit the main abolition festivities culminated with a huge firework show).

Instead there were conflicting views on future jobs and redundancies, and how much workload would be carried over. Chief architect Peter Jones said "lack of continuity would be a problem" for the contracts still running, as different architects would take over from the GLC and the new Central Technical Unit of the inner London authorities.

"You can't build a unit in five minutes," said Jones, shortly to join Watkins Gray International. "It takes experts in a range of fields to build up an international reputation that no small authority can do." Lost sources include the praised GLC computer-aided design and research and development teams, which are now disbanded.

Unanswered questions include whether projects on the drawing board — such as a £12 million fire brigade training station — will be taken up, and how available funds are for existing contracts.

But Jones and the Building continues page 6

## Gold confirmed

ARATA Isozaki, the leading post-modernist Japanese architect, has been awarded this year's Royal Gold Medal for Architecture, as exclusively reported in BD last week. See page 9

## T Dan Smith's return

IN a television programme about his life as politician, public relations consultant and criminal, T Dan Smith returns to the public eye next week.

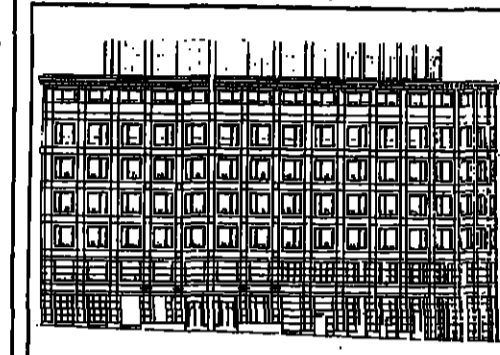
The associate of disgraced architect John Poulson was jailed in 1974 for corruption, but a BBC2 documentary next Wednesday he is given a chance to redeem himself.

Producer John Mapplebeck

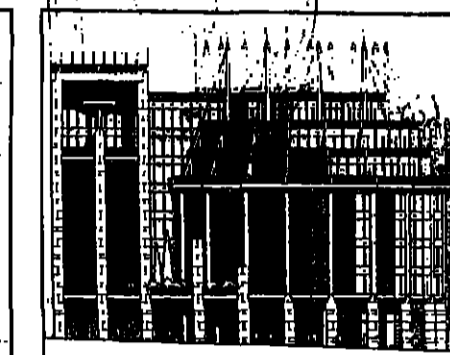
## Hostile reaction to reconstruction choice



The winner: Sidell Gibson Partnership.



Joint runner-up: YRM Partnership.



Joint runner-up: Miller Utting Architects.

# CONTROVERSY HITS GRAND BUILDINGS

CONTROVERSY raged in the architectural world this week following the announcement that the winner of the Grand Buildings competition is a scheme that largely copies the existing facade.

Widespread criticism of the decision came from both modernist and conservationists.

"It's a disaster," commented one disappointed finalist. "What was all this for if they wanted to retain the facade?"

Sidell Gibson's winning scheme rebuilds a version of the principal elevation with "improvements", and extends it

down Northumberland Avenue to take in the Standard House site. Within is an atrium, with shops at ground level and offices above, as required by the brief.

Leading the critical attack were two past-presidents of the RIBA, Michael Manser and Owen Luder. Manser said: "It's good it has gone to a young firm, but one has to say it is terribly disappointing. I think posterity

will take a very poor view of us — there was a chance to do something special on this site, and what exists is not special."

Luder said: "This is a real safety first approach. If reproducing the old facade is the best we can do then it is a sad day for modern architecture."

Ken Powell of Save Britain's Heritage also found the decision disappointing. "This does seem a rather negative result. The existing building is not remarkable, and I think most people were prepared to see it go to be replaced by an exciting modern solution."

"I feel this is another example of the cheapening of the content of London, and makes one wonder now what case there is for pulling down the existing building. Surely the competition must have thrown up more exciting and viable propositions."

A planning application for the £30 million scheme, which will comprise more than 23,000sq m of mixed commercial space, is expected in the next two months.

An exhibition of the nine second-stage entries will be held at the RIBA, beginning on Monday, April 21. Winner and runners-up — pages 2-3.

William Whitfield chaired the assessors, who gave developer Land Securities a choice of Sidell Gibson, YRM, and Miller and Utting. He defended the winner as being a scheme "that is really excellent of its kind. It is not a slavish match, but subtly enhances the original. We are unanimous about putting it forward."

He said that as an architect he had hoped for "something to come forward that developed architectural thinking". Despite the massive entry of approaching 300, he believed no scheme had really shown this. Only Richard Horden's proposal, of the nine finalists, was singled out as a strikingly original solution to the urban problems, but failed to make the final shortlist.

Richard Selfert, who knows well the problems of the site from his design for it in the 1970s, said the winning design had "combined the elegance and scale worthy of a replacement for the outdated Grand Buildings."

"The new buildings forming the backcloth of Trafalgar Square should not compete with each other. This is a lesson to all those who have attempted to imprint their own architectural philosophy and invariably failed."

A planning application for the £30 million scheme, which will comprise more than 23,000sq m of mixed commercial space, is expected in the next two months.

## How we designed the winning scheme

SIDELL Gibson describe how their design proposals emerged: "Although the Bathstone facades are in poor condition, when struck by the afternoon sun they can still glow with romantic charm, and some of the sculptural decoration, for example 'Europa and India' over the old Grand Hotel entrance, have an exuberance bursting out of dry pattern-book classicism."

"When we realised that the regular windows and 12th floor heights are as required for a modern office building, and that the contemporary atrium could find a natural point of empathy with the facade in terms of a Grand Hotel winter garden, we felt it right to forgo the pleasures of 20th century functionalism in favour of a design that put the emphasis firmly in favour of 'repair' of the urban fabric."

"Having thought this far it seemed appropriate to extend the idea to the whole site, and take advantage of the opportunity of reinforcing the image of Northumberland Avenue."

"Finally, the space outside the Sherlock Holmes (pub) could be a delightful small public square, and improvements around Charing Cross will add to its use. We therefore evolved our octagonal pavilion as a form that would complement this square and punctuate the end of Grand Buildings."

"At present the facades suffer from terrible ground-floor proportions, and we saw the introduction of a ground-floor arcade as a way of correcting this, and giving the building the firm base it so needs."

"The arcade itself, with patterned floor and vaulted ceiling, contains three levels of shops and cafes, with views to the Square."

"The stone facades would be completely reconstructed in warm coloured limestone, with a little decorative detail at high level using careful reconstructed stonework, and at lower levels incorporating substantial amounts of hand carving."

● Ron Sidell and Paul Gibson formed their practice in 1972, Gibson having worked with Farrell Grimshaw and Foster Associates (where he was responsible for the Modern Art Glass building). Sidell had experience of major European office schemes as a senior architect with Roy Chamberlain Associates.

Recent work includes large office buildings in Frankfurt, Madrid and Brussels, and sheltered housing for the English Courtyard Association.

## CURVED SECTIONS

STRUCTURAL SECTIONS, TUBES & R.H.S. IN STEEL AND ALUMINIUM



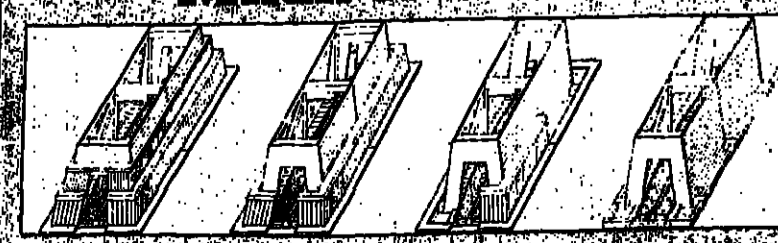
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## Milan Triennale



pages 18-19

Enter 1 ON EXPRESS ENQUIRY CARD

# Battle of Trafalgar: the winner

Sidell Gibson

IN the end it was no great surprise that the new Grand Buildings on Trafalgar Square will probably be, in external appearance at least, a close copy of what already exists.

It will doubtless be a disappointment to those of the 287 entrants to the competition who sought to provide a building of its time on the site; the assessors, who produced a shortlist of three from which Land Securities as promoter picked the winner, applauded the variety of "interesting and unusual" proposals for the internal planning of the building.

They also noted an absence of any dominant architectural style, though they found a "surprising number" were pastiches of architectural periods, "arbitrarily chosen and without particular reference to the square".

Designed by Paul Gibson of the north London firm Sidell Gibson, the winning scheme took as its starting point the view from the steps of the National Gallery, taking in Grand Buildings, Nelson's Column, Big Ben and Admiralty Arch.

In its first-stage report the practice noted: "Because of its extreme sensitivity as part of this panorama, and its nostalgic charm, we examined the existing structure in some detail."

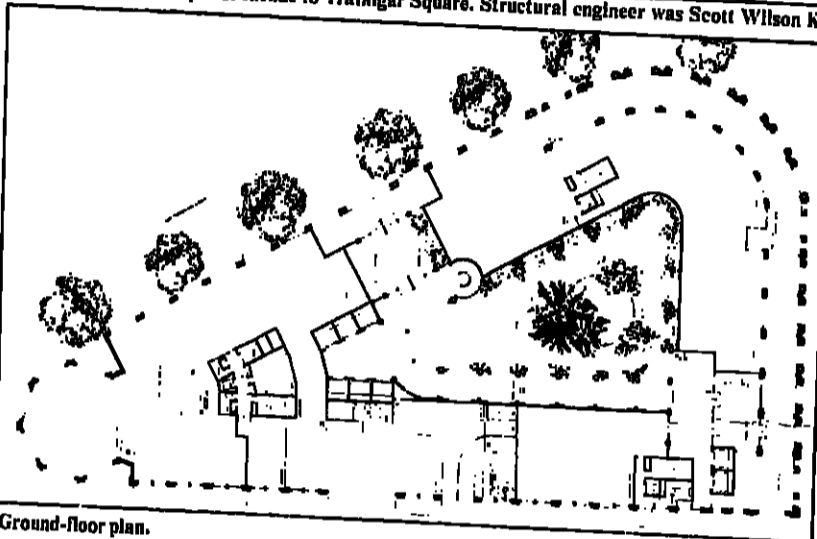
Their finished version restores some ornamental detail, suggests reconstruction rather than refurbishment to upgrade the quality of stonework, and adjusts the bay widths by a few inches to make them exactly correspond with a normal 4ft partition module.

What criticisms there were included the limited depth of ground-floor shops, a not completely satisfactory Strand entrance, and less than satisfactory secondary cores for the offices.

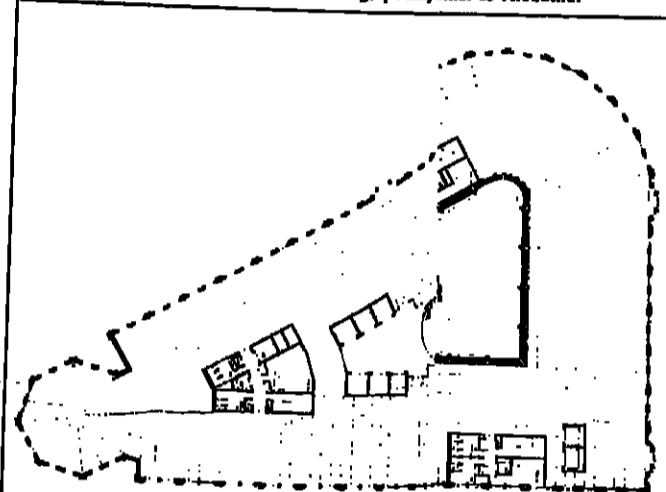
The assessors also wondered whether it would be possible to use natural, rather than reconstituted decorative stonework. But overall they praised the scheme as handling the Northumberland Avenue extension in a successful way, and maintaining the familiar enclosure of Trafalgar Square. It scarcely seems likely that there would be any planning objection from Westminster — which is just what Land Securities will have wanted.



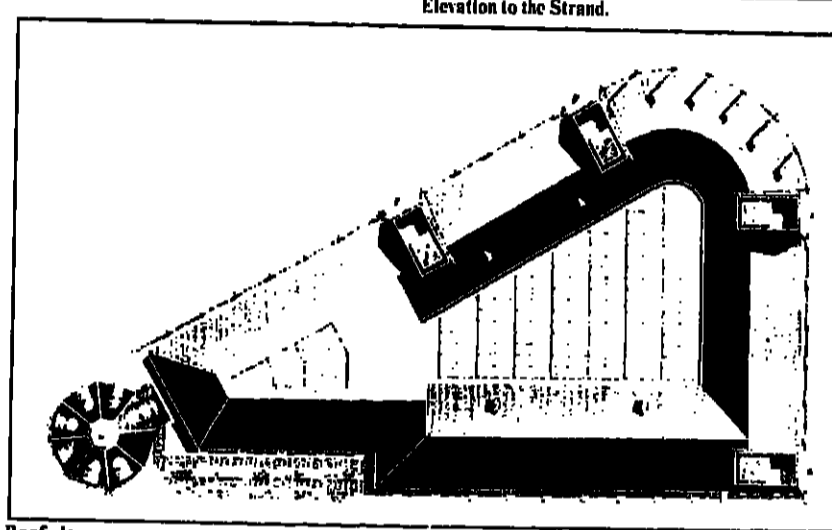
Montage by Paul Draper of facade to Trafalgar Square. Structural engineer was Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick, mechanical engineer Haden Young, quantity drier & Theobald.



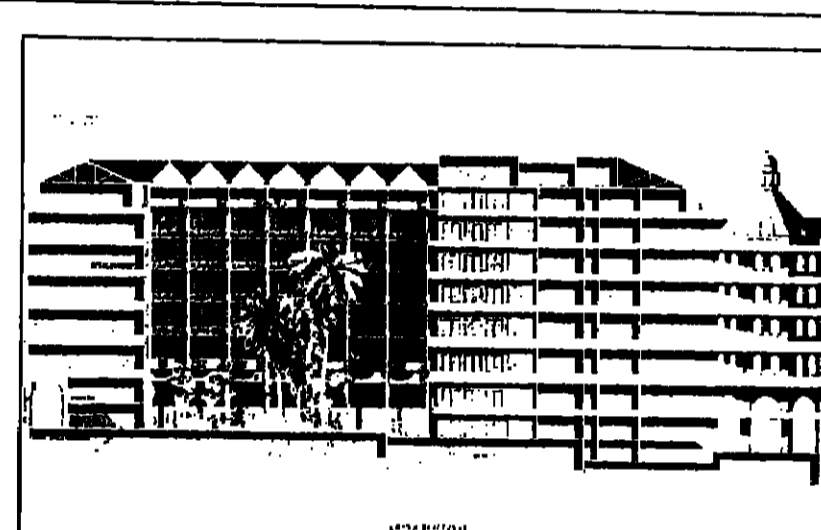
Ground-floor plan.



Typical floor plan.



Roof plan.



Longitudinal section.

Elevation to the Strand.

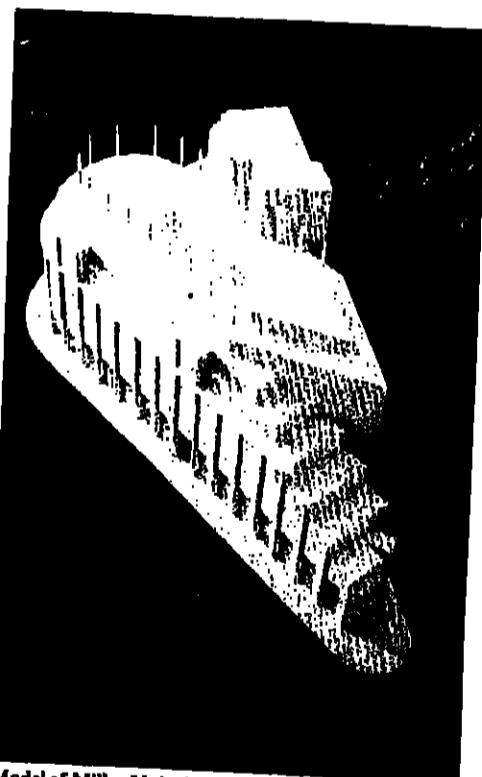
## Miller Utting Architects

THIS scheme by Caroline Miller and James Utting, one of two runners-up, started from the premise that the lower part of the square is bleak and forbidding, carved up by traffic routes and oppressed by dark north-facing facades of surrounding buildings.

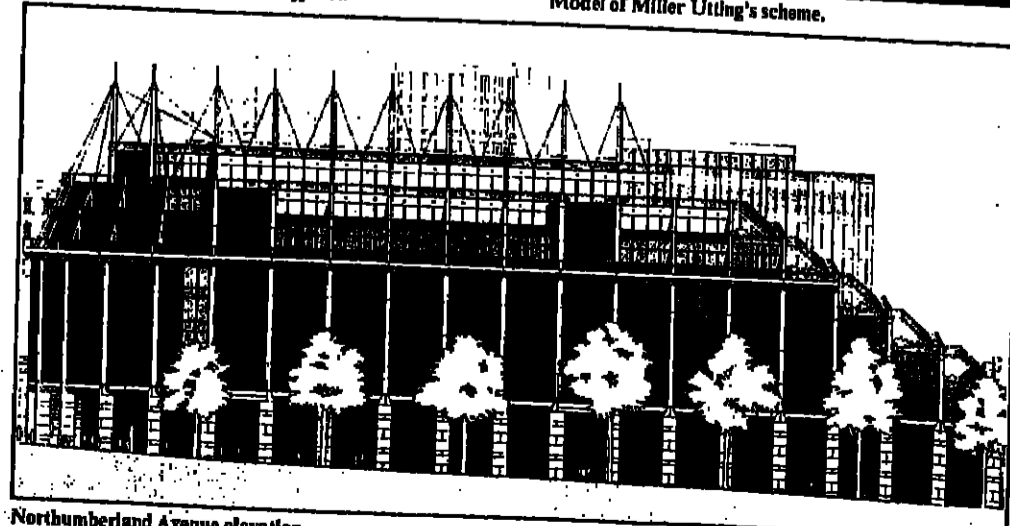
"In order to redress the balance we have purposefully designed an eventful building whose facade will change in response to light and temperature, and whose arcade, atrium and terraces offer much-needed lay-bys on this side of the square. However architecturally interesting, many of the surrounding buildings are unmemorable because they have no story to tell. Only Admiralty Arch heralds the royal route from Buckingham Palace to St Paul's. Nelson, perched lonely on his column, deserves more than a sea of cars. Grand Buildings is his flagship, sailing up Northumberland Avenue from the river to salute him and berth alongside the square."

"The design resolves the site geometry into clearer axes, forming positive shapes in sympathy with the differing scale and characters of the Strand, Trafalgar Square, Northumberland Avenue, and Northumberland Street. Stone is used in the Strand wing and the giant columns of the arcade to anchor the steel and glass pavilion, which floats alongside with full rigging and flags flying."

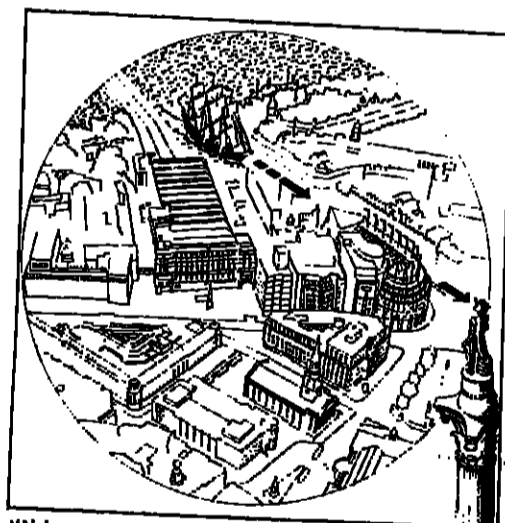
Architects: Miller Utting Architects (Caroline Miller and James Utting, assisted by Bernadette Balfe, Geoff Strange and Margery Craig). Quantity surveyors: Peter Davies and Leonard Bignall. Structural engineer: Carter Clark Partnership. Services engineer: Yates Associates. Development consultants: Sheppard Robson Architects. Modelmaker: DBP Models & Effects.



Model of Miller Utting's scheme.



Northumberland Avenue elevation.

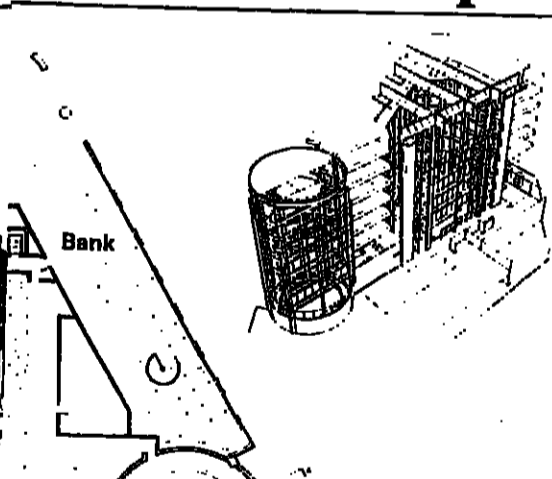


"Nelson... salutes the return of his flagship."

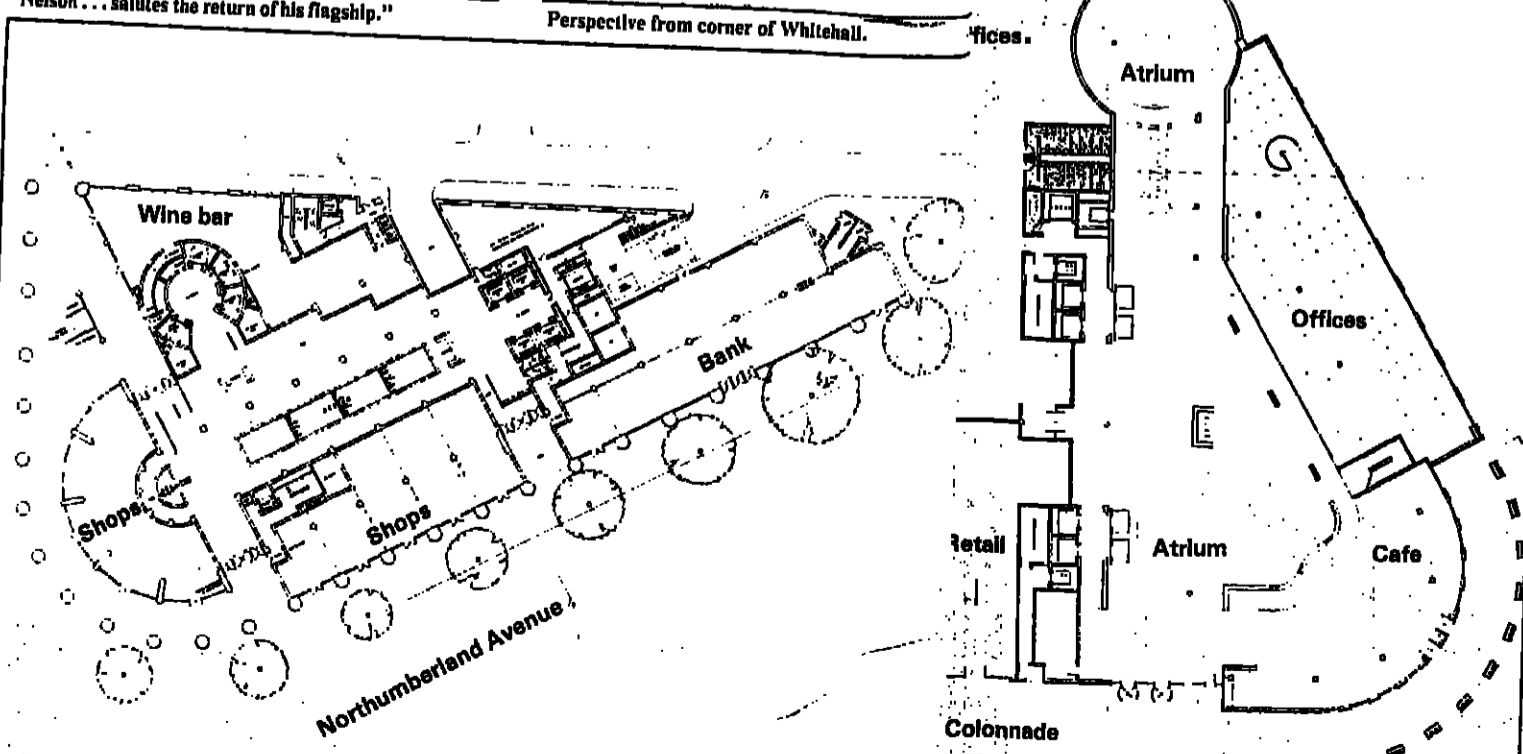


Perspective from corner of Whitehall.

## RM Partnership



Views.



Ground-floor plan.

Long-floor plan. The cafe is inside the colonnade.

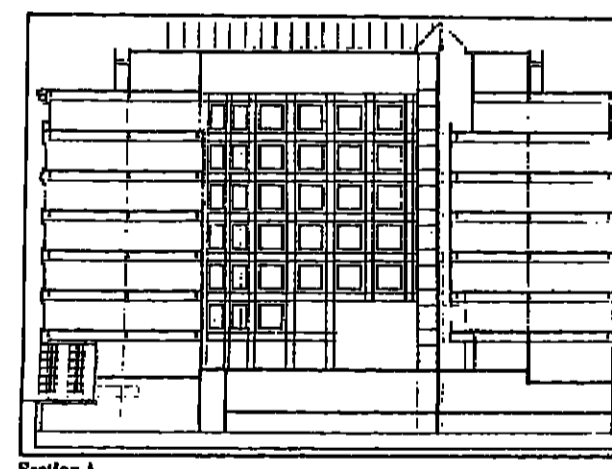
YRM's methodical approach started from the required tripartite elevational division common to buildings in the Square — ie division into base, principal floor and an attic story. The scheme keeps to the existing building line, but allows internal accommodation to be reflected in the composition of the elevations.

Main external features of the sandstone and bronze-clad steel-frame structure were a main entrance on the Strand, subsidiary entrance on Northumberland Avenue, shops on the Strand frontage and a cafe and restaurant for the south-west and south-east corners of the site respectively, the former overlooking the Square from within the colonnade, the latter responding to an existing pub in Northumberland Street.

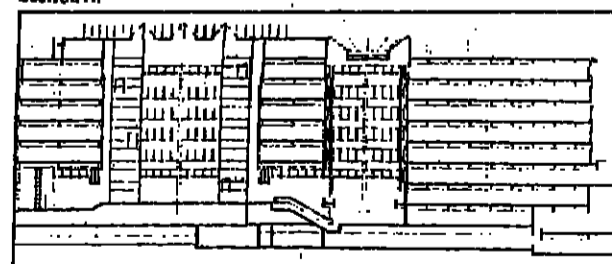
The proposal also allows for public access through the building via a central atrium linking the two entrances.

The assessors commented that while the treatment of the elevations was systematic, "they are sensitively handled and the overall character is one of quality". They noted the junction with the adjacent Strand office block was "uncompromising". In short, a refreshing rigour.

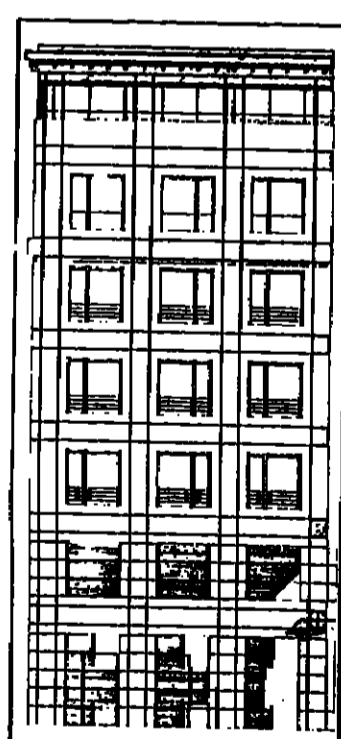
Architects: YRM Architects & Planners. Services engineer: YRM Engineers. Structural engineer: H J Waterman. Quantity surveyor: Gardiner & Theobald.



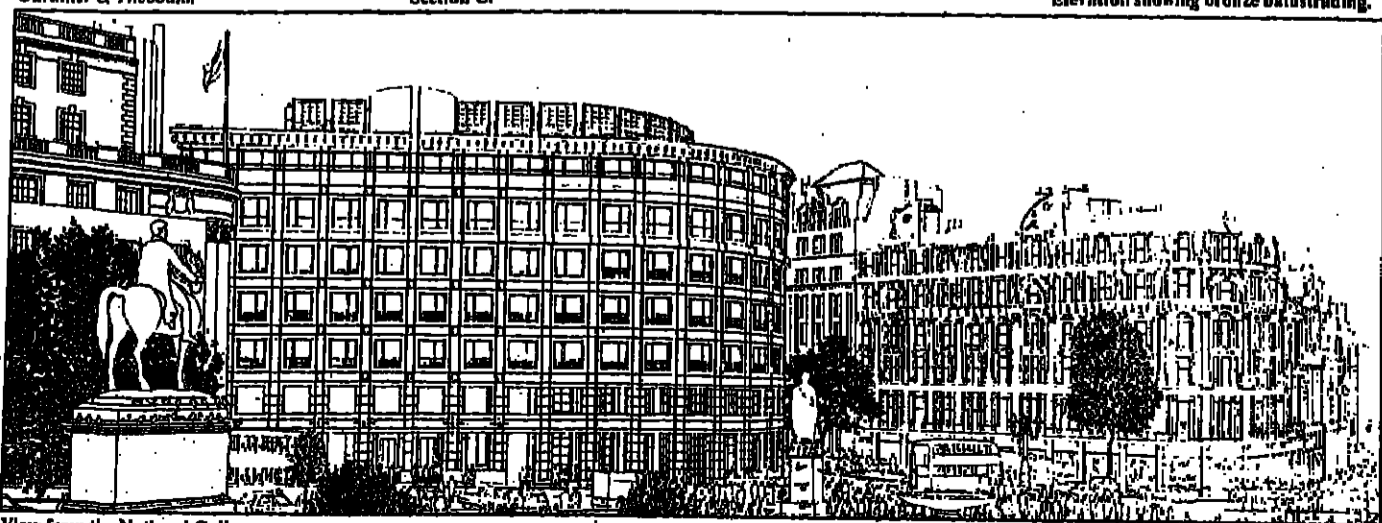
Section A.



Section C.



Elevation showing bronze balustrading.



View from the National Gallery.

## Engineers do well overseas

BRITISH consulting engineers doubled the amount of new overseas commissions last year compared with 1984.

The Association of Consulting Engineers' annual survey shows its members took on new work valued at £645 million during 1985.

The Middle East continued to provide the largest sector of work (£195 million), with Africa commissioning £148 million, and India across to the Far East bringing in £178 million. Australia and New Zealand provided £66 million.

Consulting engineers produced £562 million invisible earnings. At the end of 1985, £51,321 million work was on the books, £1,825 million up on a year earlier.

Most significant growth areas were in water supply, irrigation and railways, with industrial and commercial building work forming less than £8,000 million of the workload.



## Kew plan advances

The first stage of Kew Campus (left), an office development on the banks of the Thames designed by Eric Askew & Partners, has been completed.

It comprises two self-contained blocks of 550sq m and 1,350sq m, and together with three further blocks due to be completed by spring 1987 will provide 5,400sq m accommodation on the 0.9ha site (model right).



# Councils join up to launch building control scheme

By BD Reporter

LOCAL authorities in the west of England have banded together to produce a new house-type approval scheme — and are planning to link it with their own insurance package.

Behind the idea is the increasing concern of councils over the

need to clear away planning red tape and to ward off the threat of the private building inspector. The link-up of local authorities in Devon, Cornwall, Dorset and Somerset follows the seven

north of England counties which have joined forces to form the Northern Building Control Consortium.

The South Western Counties Building Control Consortium will allow builders and their architects to apply for a type approval to any authority in the region. When granted — it is

expected this will take about five weeks — it will be acceptable throughout the region and by similar consortiums.

This service costs nothing — payment of standard building control fees is only made when a proposal to build a particular scheme is entered.

The new consortium criticises the recently launched rival National House-Building Council building control type approval service, which is being run from Clevedon, near Bristol.

It says this is remote, and cannot really offer a comparable advisory design service.

The consortium also proposes a 10-year warranty scheme. This is expected to be available from the Municipal General Insurance Company and local authority building control offices, and will aim to meet building society investment security requirements.

## DoE backs property magazine

THE first issue of a DoE-backed property advertising magazine has been published by the West of England Trust.

The *Property Portfolio* is an important old buildings in a of imaginative re-use and sale. It also carries features successful conversions.

Details from Norman B. borough, tel: 061-794 9314.

## Steel-frame repair deal

BUILDING surveyors Hun & Partners have come up with a renovation package for Frederick Gibberd's steel framed houses, designed at the war for the British Iron Steel Federation.

More than 30,000 of houses still exist. Hunter Partners have carried out renovation schemes on more than 1,000 BISF homes for eight authorities.

## Institute extension welcomed

OVERWHELMING support greeted proposals for the new RIBA extension and for plans to bring the Drawings Collection back to Portland Place and turn the institute into an architecture centre.

Owen Luder said: "66 Portland Place is a superb building but not a monument. We have to ahead with the plans because we need the space, we need the Drawings Collection back here, and we need an architecture centre."

John Lyall also welcomed the proposals saying: "The feeling of this building is very boring, these changes could go a long way to improving the building. But we have to think very carefully about the new design before we initiate these proposals."

The motion to proceed with current plans and hold a design competition for the drawings collection gallery on the sculpture court was unanimously agreed.

# Council prepares the way for change in education debate

RIBA chiefs were confronted with a blueprint for the survival of architectural education at this week's council meeting.

Special guest speaker Douglas Wise laid down a four-point plan for how the institute must get its education policy in shape "to ensure quality in the profession is not lost".

Wise, a member of the University Grants Committee and director of the Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies at York, called for the institute to:

● Take up the Esher Report recommendation that architecture should have parity with engineering in its resources.

● Ensure involvement in the 1987 review of the Esher Report.

● Recognise the changes in architectural practice and the need for education to match this.

● Realise the proposed 30 per cent reduction in Part II intakes could still be stopped. He said such a reduction would be disastrous.

But education chairman Peter Melvin and president Larry Rolland held back from committing themselves to Wise's

approach, even though he stressed the need for action. The institute's response to the call for "concrete action" over the closure of North East London Poly and Huddersfield

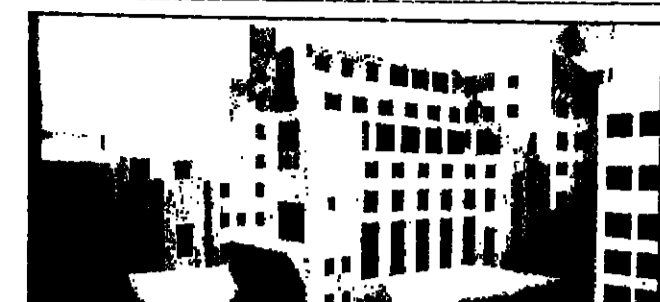
action instead of platitudes said he was "incensed" by the president's attitude.

He said that "a review of content is necessary to enable the profession and schools to give the best service they can in response to society's changing needs and to review the balance between initial and continuing education".

A draft consultation paper on education contents will be put to council for approval in May.

If approved, this should be the basis for discussion with practices and schools and in regions and branches in 1987 leading to broad proposals for the future being formulated in 1988.

Jake Brown who backed Elaine Rigby's demand for the



The first major amendments to the 50-year-old RIBA HQ are seen to be put into effect. With the departure of the institute's companies from Portland Place and an eight-level extension at the rear, (before and after making models shown here), there will be space for the return of the Drawings Collection from Portman Square where the lease is shortly to expire.

Portland Place will become an architectural centre with new public facilities, including a bar and restaurant, at ground-floor level, with the bookshop shifted to the opposite side of the reception. A competition will shortly be launched for the design of a new gallery linked to the Drawings Collection on the sculpture court.



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## Peers dissect details of latent liability Bill

THE Government's proposed 15-year "long-stop" limit on liability for latent defects was attacked in the House of Lords — for being too short, and too long.

The Bill received an unopposed second reading, but raised detailed criticisms. It will now go to committee for further discussion.

Labour's Lord Silkin of Dulwich argued that the 15-year limit proposed in the forthcoming latent damage Bill should be modified to allow some elasticity on the part of the court dealing with each case.

He said he spoke with personal experience because his house suffered settlement which was not noticeable until 25 years after it was built.

He proposed giving the court some powers to vary the limit in hardship cases.

But Lord Mair, also for Labour, then argued that in practice the 15-year limit would be too long, and that it should be a 10-year limit starting on the

date of completion of contract.

For the Government, Lord Chancellor, Lord H. sham, said his Law Ref. Committee had consulted organisations before arriving at the 15-year limit.

"It is bound to be a compromise and is bound to have element of arbitrariness about it. This is what limitation is about, whatever form it takes," he said.

## Kensington surveyed

THE last volume on Kensington, (Kensington Square Earls Court) in the *Survey London* series has just been published.

Started in 1900 by C. Ashbee, this will be the 42 volume in the series, edited by Hermione Hobhouse. Cost £25.



## Covent Garden alternative

This is the scheme by Peter Milne & Associates for 28 flats above a nursery and estate office in Covent Garden, commissioned by the Covent Garden Council and the Covent Garden Community Association.

For security reasons there is a single housing entrance, with two lifts and central staircase leading to external walkways around the interior courtyard.

## Student protest

ARCHITECTURAL students protesting against education cuts are to mount a day of action that is planned to include massive banners strung from tower blocks.

The headline campaign will draw attention to the architectural sins of the past as part of the case for investment in education now.

## RIBA committee to safeguard standards

COUNCIL voted overwhelmingly in favour of setting up a steering committee to watch and maintain the professional standards of members.

Until now, By-law 5.1 has only dealt with a member's ethical conduct, but a new report recommends that it should include "a standard of professional performance which is consistent with membership of the RIBA".

Presenting the report, Ray Cecil said that the changes were not there "to throw out members but to advise and counsel them".

Under the new procedures the RIBA will examine bona fide complaints and where necessary initiate disciplinary proceedings.

There were some strong objections from the floor. Jack Laidlaw said he could not see the

benefits of such a committee to the profession. "It will be an internal investigation which will not benefit the client and will mean that investigators can go through practice files and make site visits."

Other councillors were worried that the RIBA did not have the resources to set up the committee and said present procedures were adequate.

Max Hutchinson said that "to drop the idea at this stage would be defeatism beyond imagination".

The RIBA must mean quality, he said. "Our credibility is fast disappearing and this is a belated step."

Cecil added: "If we don't set our own house in order, society will impose their own regulatory discipline on the profession."

Voting was 33 in favour, six against and two abstentions.

## Hackney calls for more RIBA backing

ROD Hackney has taken his campaign within the RIBA for more community architecture to the wider political stage.

He called on the institute to fully embrace community architecture during a speech to the Tory Reform Group.

He cited the support of environment secretary Kenneth Baker, who was recently quoted as saying: "Community architecture has always been considered to be a backwater of the architecture and development world. I hope it is going to become the mainstream of it."

Hackney also criticised the institute for accepting cuts in the number of student architects.

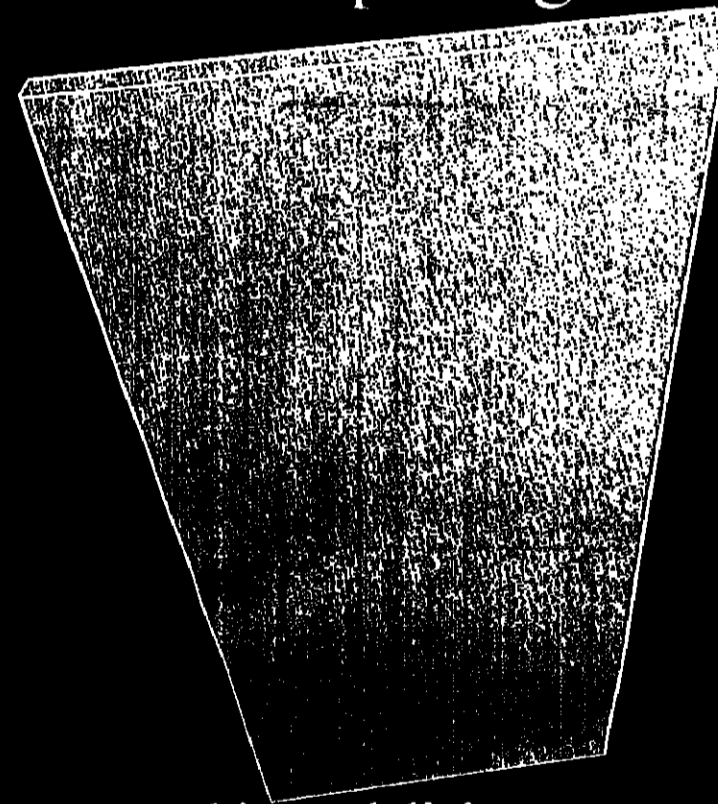
Britain's run-down infrastructure, especially in the inner cities, would need more rather than less architects, he told Tory MPs at Somerville College, Oxford.

The Government should immediately launch architectural aid he said, to offer free architectural advice in the same way legal aid supplies legal advice.

Hackney also called on the Government and the building industry to participate with local communities in halting "environmental decay".

He said architects must become part of the solution "for if they don't, then they must, by implication, be part of the problem".

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## Portsmouth reviews estate plans under DoE pressure

Portsmouth City Council has reopened talks with two companies which completed unsuccessfully for the contract to refurbish the Portsmouth Park Estate.

This is despite having already agreed to give the freehold of the estate to Barratt in return for its refurbishment and nomination rights over some of the homes.

But the DoE asked it to get more details from Regalian and Lining Homes, which made offers worth £2 million and £500,000.

The council took legal advice on whether it had to comply with the request, and has now given the two companies five weeks to supply the information it requires.

But Barratt still hopes to start work as planned on May 1 and says 100 units could be ready by the end of September.

The company pointed out that it would be spending £9 million on the project.

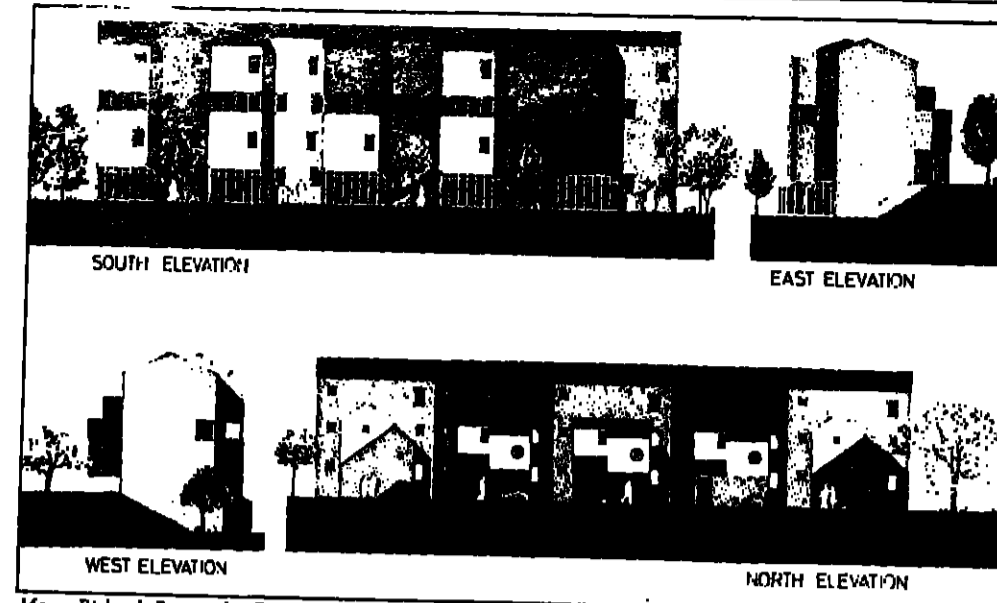
The scheme will provide 200 fair rent units and 53 for shared ownership, all through the Orbit Housing Association, and 391 for sale by Barratt.

The estate was completed to an award-winning design in 1975 and has suffered from water penetration.

Regalian is offering the first flats for sale from a refurbishment in Wandsworth.

Last year the company paid the council £4 million for the run-down, asbestos-riddled Livingstone Estate of 338 flats in seven four-storey flats and two 17-storey blocks.

Now called the Falcons, two-bedroom two-bathroom flats will be offered for £25,000 and one-bedroom flats for around £45,000.



Mason Richards Partnership Portsmouth refurbishment proposal for Barratt, with new roofs and altered elevations.

## Georgians gather in Bath

A STAR-studded list of architects is to descend on Bath next month to examine the problem of designing new buildings for historic cities.

The Georgian Group is organising a symposium in the city on April 18, with contributions from Robert Adam, Jeremy Dixon, Terry Farrell, Leon Krier, Quinlan Terry, William Whitfield and Professor J Mordaunt Crook.

Architectural critic and adviser Colin Amery will chair the event, and Royal Fine Art Commission chairman Norman St John Stevas opens the day.

Tickets (20) are available from the Georgian Group, 37 Spital Square, London E1 6DY.

## Why we need new homes

NEARLY a million new homes are needed in Britain, the Association of Metropolitan Authorities claimed this week, citing the Government's own statistics as evidence.

It said latest figures produced by the Office of Population, Censuses & Surveys showed that 460,000 households were forced to share accommodation and 500,000 new homes were needed by the homeless and families in overcrowded conditions.

# New town corporation's survival battle looks lost

THE death sentence for Basildon Development Corporation — the last of the London ring new town corporations — takes effect next week.

Property rights and liabilities of the corporation are handed over on April 1 to the New Towns Commission, with the final dissolution of the corporation on June 30.

But behind the closure lies a long struggle. Opponents say political expediency, not a valid case, has led to this latest decision.

This is, in fact, the fourth wind-up date the corporation has been given, but it has struggled on and outlived all its sister corporations set up in 1949, the last to go being Bracknell in 1982.

Despite the longevity of the corporation, chief architect John Byron told *BD* this week that there was still a considerable amount of work to be carried out.

"I think it must be unique for a development corporation to be wound up when there is still so much going on," he commented.

To carry out the continuing commitments, the commission

is expected to take on more than 400 staff from the corporation, which has an architects' department of nearly 50 staff.

The department has recently finished the £50 million Eastgate centre development.

It is currently involved with major infrastructure work in the

south-west of the new town, on land that has only just been acquired after years of waiting for finance from the Government.

Housing developers are in discussion for schemes for up to

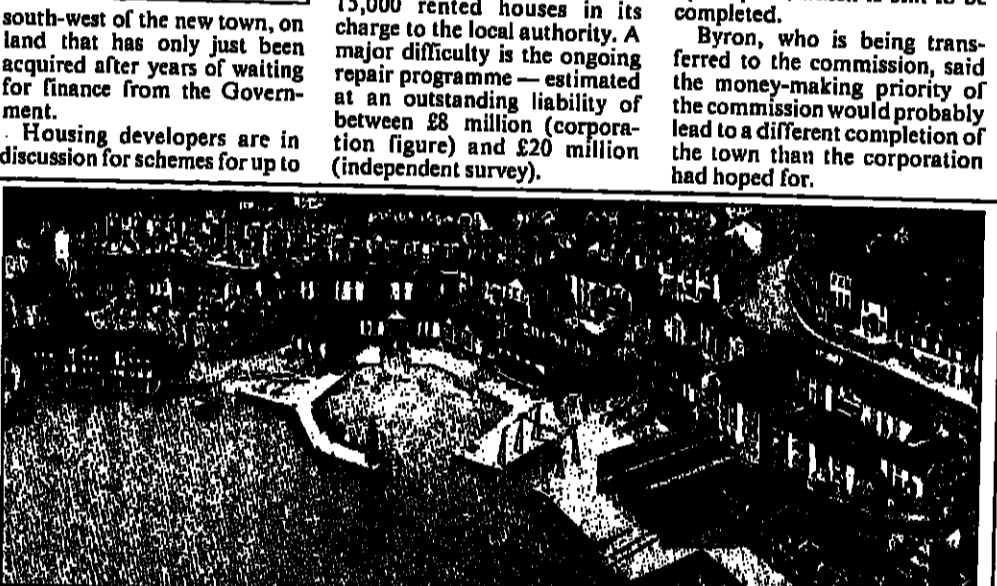
700 units on the land.

There is also a key problem site in the town centre, which the development corporation has been waiting to become available in order to encourage a possible mixed leisure/retail/office scheme.

Another problem with the wind-up is that the corporation has still not come to any agreement on handing over the 15,000 rented houses in its charge to the local authority. A major difficulty is the ongoing repair programme — estimated at an outstanding liability of between £8 million (corporation figure) and £20 million (independent survey).

Byron, who is being transferred to the commission, said the money-making priority of the commission would probably lead to a different completion of the town than the corporation had hoped for.

By Lewis Blackwell



## Cloudy future post-GLC

from page 1

Employers Confederation had talks to ensure as smooth possible transfer of contract with contractors advised their future client and the boroughs informed of the flow requirements.

The CTU is still interviewed for its 300 or so posts, but now obtained offices at Vex hall Cross. Nobody could a move many staff would turn for the first day of work Tuesday.

For those on the final GL Architecture Club trip in Barcelona last weekend, there were mixed feelings on abolition.

For long-serving staff, a mess and anger at the abolition: redundancy payments up to £230,000 — and possibility of quickly getting of the jobs with the CTU, boroughs that are still to decided, or using the pay-off set up in private practice.

It is perhaps in the abolished metropolitan counties that new jobs for old will harder to find, with successor boroughs saying increased workload may largely absorbed by press staff.

In its death throes the GL has attempted its own form cryogenics: a 140-page document telling a future Labour government how to revive London-wide authority a give it even more power over planning and building of the

● A PARTING shot from GLC this week was the publication of an independent report claiming that an extra £2 million must be pumped in new London housing over next 18 months to avert the threat in homelessness.

And environment secretary Kenneth Baker also had to face up to revelations that abolition has little or no job savings, with many new posts being open up. For example, Camden council has taken on 82 planners, architects and surveyors.

## Struck off by Arcuk

TWO architects have been struck off by Arcuk for "graceful conduct".

Graham Miles of London received a two-year suspension for matters concerning payments to employees.

John Glacker of Hull was deregistered for one year after Arcuk's disciplinary committee was told of irregularities tendering procedures.

Both men will be unable call themselves architects and they are allowed to re-register. They could still continue practice under another Arcuk registrar Kenneth Fox said.

## Public ear

THE London Docklands Development Corporation is open to its fortnightly public committee meetings to a public from April 22, following four years of campaigning pressure groups.

## Architects hit strife on waterfront

Placard-waving protesters met a group of council officials who went on a fact-finding tour of the site of a planned £5 million development in Brimsford.

Architect John Andrew of Edward Narracott, Tannor & Andre is leading outline planning permission for the scheme, which would involve redeveloping 180m of waterfront and reclaiming more than 2,000sq m of foreshore.

The protesters claim it would be a gross over-development of the area, cause extra traffic problems and ruin their view of the waterfront.

But Andre insisted most residents were in favour of the scheme, and the small group of protesters were mainly guest-house owners whose view of the waterfront would be diminished.

The project includes 183 houses and flats, a ship repair yard and a mini harbour.

## Glass distinction show

A LECTURE by American artist Ray King about his work in glass and metal will be held at the RIBA on April 8 to coincide with the exhibition of his work running from April 8 to May 2.

The event is part of a three-day conference from April 8-10, "Glass in the environment — directions in craftsmanship, architecture and design", which has been organised by the Crafts Council, the RIBA, College of Art and the RIBA.

## RTPI urges northern aid agency

TOWN planners in the north of England want a Government sponsored development agency on the same lines as the Scottish Development Agency.

But the Royal Town Planning Institute northern branch chairman, Dick Williams, said that it appeared unlikely.

The RTPI also criticised the Government's proposals to remove local control over directional signs for tourist attractions and facilities.

## Action likely on leaky roof

NEWCASTLE city councillors are considering litigation against the builders of the 10-year-old Eldon Square reception centre over a leaking roof.

The announcement comes on the heels of plans for an 8,000sq m extension by the original architects of the building, Chapman Taylor Partners.

## Hard rain falls

AIR pollution and acid rain which have damaged 52 per cent of West Germany's forests have also devastated the country's historic buildings, according to the Bonn research ministry. As much damage has been caused to stone buildings in the last 70 years as in the previous 400.

## Tory council acts to protect housing

WESTMINSTER council intends to tighten its planning policy in an attempt to protect residential areas.

The move by the Tory-controlled council directly challenges Government proposals to relax Use Class Orders, which determine what land and buildings are used for.

The council wants to designate shopping areas outside the West End where no shops would be allowed to change to other use.

It claims this would protect local amenities which would otherwise be eroded by the growth of services such as banks and estate agents.

Alan Bradley, chairman of the council's planning and development committee, said: "Many proposals to convert shops to other uses, refused by the council, have been allowed on appeal by the DoE. This means shops are lost and services are distributed haphazardly."

"What we are hoping to do is produce district plans which are more defensible in appeals."

The council attacked the DoE proposals under another Arcuk registrar Kenneth Fox said.

## DoE supports Euro cash for Theatre Royal refurb

RENTON Howard Wood Levin's plan for a £6.4 million refurbishment of Newcastle's Theatre Royal has received a boost by the announcement that the DoE is supporting the city council's bid for 50 per cent Common Market funding.

The first phase of the scheme — £1.9 million worth of backstage works and internal refurbishment — is going ahead with the city council footing the bill.

# Cannon Street hopefuls look for designers

TWO of the seven developers invited to submit plans to build up to 50,000sq m of office space above Cannon Street station are still looking for architects.

And one of the developers will be holding its own invited competition to select an architect.

The developer/architect teams listed by the British Rail Property Board so far are: Trafalgar House and Arup Associates, MEPC and GWM Partnership, Greycourt and

By Alan Thompson

Richard Rogers, a consortium of NFC properties, London Metropolitan Estates and Watergate International Holdings with Scott Brownrigg & Turner, and The Lysander Group and Eagle Star with Selfert.

Developers Speyhawk and Rosehaugh Stanhope have not yet chosen an architect for their proposals and Rosehaugh Stanhope told *Building Design* it would be inviting several architects to compete for the design rights in its scheme.

The site, which is bordered by Cousins Lane, Upper Thames Street, Allhallows Lane and the north bank of the Thames, contains a pair of Grade II-listed towers currently being renovated which will have to be incorporated into any new scheme.

Developers have until June 9 to submit plans.



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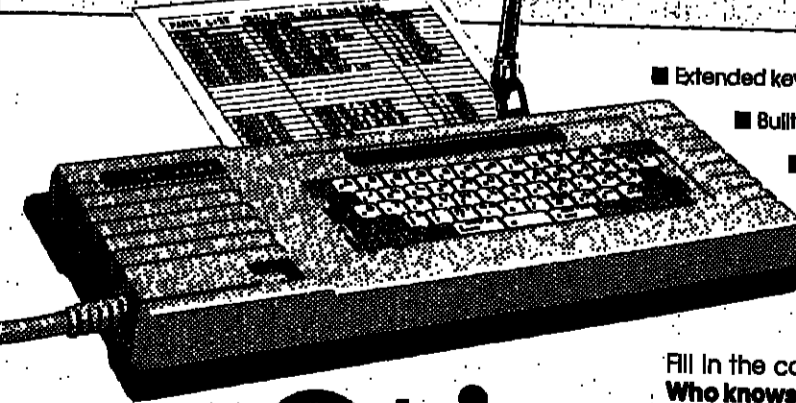
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## Isle of Dogs self-build homes get go-ahead

STOUT & Lichfield have won planning permission for 46 homes for the Great Eastern Self Building Housing Association

### Options for graduates

THE Architectural Association is offering architects and other graduates joint study options for the 1986-87 academic year in its housing and energy studies programmes.

Graduates will be able to work towards one- or two-year diplomas or advanced degrees combining technical and socio-cultural aspects of housing provision.

at West Ferry Road on the Isle of Dogs.

The homes have been designed on two and three floors in brick with the needs of the self-builders firmly in mind.

The group is made up primarily of "blenders", as local people like to be known, and non-trademen.

Roy Stout said: "The houses have been designed to reflect individual requirements far more than we have ever done in housing for local authorities."

"They have been involved in their own house at a very early stage and also in the solution as to how they will allocate the site. They have been a very good group to work with."

THE Derek Lovejoy Partnership has won first place in a garden festival main landscape design competition — for the third time in a row.

As predicted in *BD* three weeks ago, DLP has followed its wins at Liverpool and Stoke by carrying off the top prize at Glasgow.

A DLP team has won the

## News

# Architects win third festival landscape design competition

competition for the water and maritime sector at the 1988 festival. This key site straddles the entrance from the Clyde to the Princes Dock Canting Basin.

**By Tony Aldous**

The 43,000sq m site is constrained by "fixes". It forms an L-shape of quays round the

retained basin, with a foot- and rail-bridge connecting the two parts of the "L".

The brief demands that the landscape allows the bridge to retract for large vessels to pass in and out of the basin.

The 44 entrants for the competition had to provide a landscape frame for six exhibition themes (nautical exhibits; water and work; water displays; plant collectors and plants from overseas; water gardens; and inland waterways) and allow for restaurant and toilet buildings and a 67m high viewing tower (both designed by others).

Setts on quay edges and riverside walkway were to be kept, and much of the planting had to be of use elsewhere after the festival — a condition which reflects continuing uncertainty over how much of the landscaping can be retained.

A key figure in the DLP design team is Manchester partner Will Williams, who played a key role in designing the Stoke scheme. The £2,500 prize money will help pay for the winning design to be implemented.

Williams told *BD* he could not discuss the outcome of the Glasgow competition until the organiser, the Scottish Development Agency, announced it officially.

## Convention centre chief resigns

FRANCIS Graves, chief troller of Birmingham, posed £106 million cost centre, has resigned his post saying he lacks necessary authority to do the job efficiently.

The 56-year-old surveyor achieved international recognition when he led the team that built the NEC Exhibition Centre. He was "At the NEC I had the trust and to make decisions with the convention centre hand-cuffed."

He lays the blame on the control of the convention committee. He said the restrictions could have caused a year's delay and cost Birmingham another £10 million.

But his successor, Jim Iden, project coordinator, no reason why the job should not be completed by 1990 deadline.

AGP to refit royal liner

ARCHITECTS' Group I have been taken on by Cunard to carry out the refit of the Queen Elizabeth liner.

The £14m upgrading will place in West Germany October, and is the ship's major refit since 1983.

AGP are also designing a million frozen food plant Unger Foods in the 54 enterprise zone. Manchester will include manufacturing storage and distribution complex totalling 11,700sq

## Infill

# Gold for Isozaki

ARATA Isozaki becomes the second Japanese recipient of the Royal Gold Medal for Architecture, 21 years after Kenzo Tange, in whose office he worked for 10 years.

Since setting up his own practice in 1963 at the age of 32, Isozaki has been a prominent and controversial architect with many buildings and projects to his credit.

Unlike most of his contemporaries, he has operated worldwide, teaching, exhibiting and practising, and recent commissions include the Palladium discotheque in Manhattan, part of the planned Olympics complex in Barcelona and the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art, now nearing completion.

The citation stresses Isozaki's experimental and diverse approaches. "His Central Library of Kitakyushu City has an almost organic quality with hints of Boullée and Ledoux. His Festival Plaza at Expo 70 Osaka and his West Japan Exhibition Centre in 1975, also in Kitakyushu, are pure hi-tech, while the Gunma Museum of Fine Arts, built in 1975, is a brilliant essay in cool classicism."

Isozaki's quiet, unassuming manner belies a determined creative talent of extraordinary virtuosity. His work has become

increasingly referential — to both classical and modernist sources (and sometimes even quoting themes and motifs from his own earlier work), and his borrowing from the western classical tradition has seen him pigeon-holed as a post-modernist. The Tsukuba Civic Centre highlights this direction, with its empty gestures towards western precedents.

As an invited entrant in the Berlin IBA competition for a new sports, recreation and residential centre at Tegel, Isozaki felt no qualms about proposing a massive mega-structure that took its elevation programme directly from Schinkel — his drawings were even rendered in his manner; the entry was, needless to say, regarded as too explicit for German sensibilities.

Underlying all Isozaki's work, however, is a mastery of handling of form and material, and this stems from a deep rooted understanding of the Japanese craft inheritance.

Isozaki's influence has also been felt as a juror for international competitions and awards, from the Pritzker Prize to the Hong Kong Peak and La Villette. It is said that he came to Paris direct from Hong Kong believing that the Office for Metropolitan Architecture had won the Peak job (it was in fact an entry by Zaha Hadid, former OMA partner), and on that basis supported Bernard Tschumi's scheme for La Villette against OMA's second-placed proposal; OMA partners Koolhaas and Zenghelis were, understandably, not amused.



Isozaki — master of form.

Ian Latham

## 179 urban grants awarded

ONE hundred and seventy-nine urban development grants have been accepted or are on offer, according to housing and urban affairs minister John Patten.

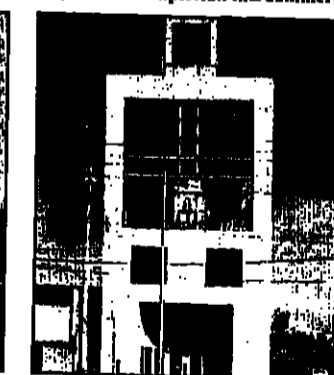
Replying to a question from Sydney Chapman MP in the House of Commons, he said £85.4 million in grants had been



Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art, due for completion this summer.



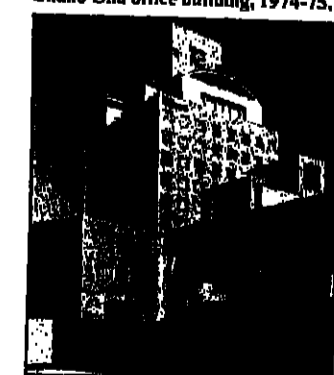
Gunma Museum, 1971-74.



Shoko-Sha office building, 1974-75.



Kamioka Town Hall, 1976-78.



Tsukuba Civic Centre, 1979-84.

Barratt Urban Renewal (Northern) has started work on a £12.5m scheme to convert disused warehouses on the River Aire in Leeds into 121 flats. The scheme, Chippendale Wharf, was first announced in January and was held back pending grant aid negotiations with the Government, who now contribute £1.3m. Some new-build will also be included. Meanwhile, in Wandsworth (above), Barratt East London has built £3.2m Bridge Park housing scheme opened by environment secretary Baker. The scheme, a partnership with Wandsworth Borough Council, is the renovation of 78 council flats in seven blocks and the building of 24 flats. The flats have been offered for sale to council nominees. The scheme designed in-house by Barratt East London.



Kitakyushu City Art Museum, 1972-74.

## BUILDING DESIGN

# The faceless capital

THE demise of the metropolitan authorities and the Greater London Council can scarcely be a cause for rejoicing, even among Tory voters who believe that local authorities are the problem rather than a solution to the urban difficulties that beset us. The tasks undertaken by these authorities have to be carried out by someone; people have to be employed to do the work involved; money has to be spent to carry it out. This is the small change of the political argument about power and devolution, however. When it comes to the big arguments, the focus shifts from the metro authorities to London, because this is the only case where a great city is deprived of any corporate political and psychological identity. Sheffield, Manchester, Liverpool — they can all survive quite happily without the overlordship of a county authority; London, by contrast, ceases to have any voice at all, unless you count on the one hand the Lord Mayor of the City of London, or on the other the chairman of the London Boroughs

Association. Neither of these offices carries the weight a great capital city should expect from an elected leader.

So should we mourn the ending of the GLC as an irredeemable loss, or wait in hope for some new government to pick up the challenge of recreating a London authority, possibly even in County Hall? The objection to the latter idea for many erstwhile and would-be supporters of a Greater London authority is the awful knowledge of the lunatic antics which the last incumbents of County Hall seemed to love; and whatever the constitutional arguments in favour of a London-wide authority, there comes a time when these are outweighed by the behaviour of those likely to achieve office. In this respect, for all his good natured banter, Ken Livingstone has done London and Londoners an enormous disservice — even though select groups of people and certain areas (like his own prospective Parliamentary constituency) have benefited enormously. Spendthrift, irresponsible and at times unhinged, the

## The Editor's Comment



Labour administration ensured its own defeat at the hands of Mrs Thatcher because its behaviour antagonised a crucial number of potential supporters in Parliament, including many Tories.

Is there an alternative to the GLC which would give London someone responsible for its well-being without reintroducing a mighty bureaucracy? Yes there is. A minister for London, with a small department inside the DoE, could fight the capital's corner in Whitehall, could deal with the London Boroughs Association as grass roots representatives, and act as the corporate leader of the capital. A successful minister would be one who did well by London and Londoners. Who knows, were such a post introduced, it might one day be occupied by the newly moderate Mr Livingstone.



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## Letters

## CAG — spoiling a good idea

From Keith Ingham  
WHEN in 1976, as RIBA vice-president for membership and public affairs, I included in our budget the basis for what became the "Community Architecture Group", I was somewhat fearful of what might happen to what was undoubtedly a noble idea.

The actual terms of reference for the group were simply "to seek ways of broadening the interface between the profession and the public — and to connect better our skills with the problems".

The CAG seemed the best name at the time but the last thing I ever wanted was for an area of concern, perhaps best pursued further away from any form of institutionalisation, to become some form of politicalised movement, which is now in fact answering only a part of that original brief.

It appears therefore that we laid a "cuckoo's egg" in our nest and I feel that the antics of the CAG in the last few years have done a disservice to the objective of just helping individuals or small groups towards a better environment for themselves. That is not to say that CAG should not have been kicking the Government and the institutions into devoting a fairer proportion of available resources to such work, but they are in danger of continuing the replacement of one centralised tyranny with another, in the name of "freedom".

A great many architects in their quiet way are becoming more involved with the everyday modest projects and in general are serving all types of clients in a greater variety of ways. So in my view, we have made some progress with that now 10-year-old brief.

The RIBA, however, in perhaps having to oppose the

CAG because it has gone the way I have described above, is in danger of seeming to settle back into the comfortable elitist ways. It is an old cry, but by being identified with "architects" and not "architecture" it will find it increasingly difficult to respond to a world that has long changed. There is no evidence that "architecture" is not popular, but more the attitudes and performance of architects that produce certain types of building.

If we promote a desire for better and responsive architecture from an increasingly aware public, does it really matter how that is achieved? Therefore let us continue to seek even more and better ways of connecting our skills with the problems — quietly, with no labels and no ego trips — or am I being naive in today's extremist world?

## Pembroke competition

From Nicholas Mann, senior tutor and J H C Leach, Pembroke College  
THERE is only one serious inaccuracy in Ian Latham's

article on the Pembroke competition (March 21), which is the statement that the college's "intended architect was invited to participate in the competition".

Had that been the case, criticism that we could have saved practices time and trouble would indeed be justified. But perhaps we may set the record straight: the fact of the matter is that the decision to run a competition (taken before the competition of an architectural adviser) was taken precisely because the college had no architect in mind, did not wish to find itself from the very start at the mercy of a single architect, and hoped to be able to choose a project from the exciting range of proposals which it presumed would emerge from a competition.

Furthermore, the elaboration of a much more detailed brief than is usual in such competitions was intended to ensure that the college, as client, would get the building that it wanted rather than one which an architect was determined to build. The outcome of the competition (given the absence of architects on the governing body, at which we trust Ian Latham was not carping) may thus be seen as reflecting as

much upon the client as upon the architect!

## Quality and school cuts

From Keith Dyer  
I READ with interest your report "Wise says cuts irresponsible" (March 7) in which Professor Douglass Wise is quoted as making the remarkable statement that forthcoming cuts/closures of university architecture schools will be made without regard to quality: "quality would not be a factor."

Why this should be so may be explained by the fact that architecture in universities falls under the University Grants Committee technology committee, despite the fact that architecture is not a technology.

Furthermore, analysis of the composition of the technology committee reveals that it is made up entirely of civil, chemical, mechanical, and electrical engineers plus one architect — Wise himself. A list of technology committee members was recently published in *The Times Higher Education Supplement*

(March 14). The committee determines the fate of university schools in the best traditions of "The Prime Minister", composed almost entirely of people with expert knowledge of the subject and very possibly antipathetic to a subject with aesthetic and artistic dimensions. (In an experience scientists are of livious to their surrounding provided they've got a lab, and a busen burner they'd quite happy working in a slum.)

No doubt the technology committee will co-opt some architectural "experts" — rubber-stamp the predetermined result. It is perhaps the prospect of such an outcome that has led Wise bravely to speak out against the folly of process now in train, notwithstanding his membership of the committee in question.

## Letters

Letters should be typed double spaced on one side of the sheet and sent to: The Editor, *Building Design*, 30 Calderwood Street, London SE18 6QH. We reserve the right to cut or amend correspondence.

## Letters

## Trivial pursuit for Glasgow

From Colin McKercher, department of landscape architecture, Heriot-Watt University  
HERE is another contribution to the garden festival correspondence which has been stirred up by Brian Clouston's article on February 21, picking up two points made in it.

The first is about the deceit and dishonesty of central government quarters declaring support for garden festivals and then taking their contribution for Glasgow out of the regular Scottish Development Agency budget. The Treasury, that enclave of misery, has won again, it seems.

I wonder if the Government, in a sort of Dr Frankenstein and the Monster re-enactment, helped to create something which is now an embarrassment? Was it a mistake to go for a two-year interval, following the German example, when the German system had been under such financial strain in recent years? Something between the German two-year and the Dutch 10-year interval might have been easier to handle when starting from scratch, and a four-year or five-year spacing would enable lessons from each festival to be incorporated into the next. It wouldn't surprise me if Germany were to change to a wider spacing, and a nice bit of irony that would be if it did.

The second point is on the question of permanence and temporariness. It is not just that there has always been a weighing put on a permanence in German Bundesgartenschau parks, but also that there is now a vigorous movement to reduce the temporary features to an absolute minimum.

The show due to open next year in Dusseldorf is a response to widespread criticism in Germany in recent years about transient elements and their cost, and the consequence of this is that Dusseldorf is to be virtually all permanent. The Floriade programmed for 1992 at Zoetermeer is no exception. Here, an entirely new urban peripheral park is to be created for the permanent benefit of the Zoetermeerians.

Now, it could be argued, as Roy Winter did in his letter (March 7), that we need not follow the Continental example. Just because the Germans or the

Dutch do it doesn't necessarily make it right, especially for the UK. But the economic argument about the proper use of public funds and the conceptual argument about the objectives of garden festivals apply here as much as they do there.

Mentioning the objectives of garden festivals raises an additional point. The Dusseldorf design will distinguish itself by the accuracy with which it has interpreted the needs of the local community. The Zoetermeer design is radically different to the last Floriade in the Gansweerd Park at Amsterdam by its fundamental thinking about topics like the role of "nature", the significance of geometry and the relationship between landscape design and other disciplines. Glasgow is likely to distinguish itself by the originality of its themes and theme gardens.

The landscape profession prides itself on being a cut above the heather and rock garden school of design, but here it is apparently dabbling in it, because themes proliferate in British festivals and many of them, like the "woodland garden" mentioned by Gordon Haynes (March 7) are below the credibility threshold. The design coordinators may not have designed this "woodland garden" brief but they are responsible for it as overseers.

So, essentially, Zoetermeer is about intellectual concepts, Dusseldorf is about sociological significance and Glasgow is about fireworks. Fireworks may be as honourable a preoccupation as philosophy, but it might be dangerously close to the mire wherein lurk such unthinking trivia as pop music videos and "post-modernism".

Colin McKercher  
Edinburgh

## Avoiding real debate

From Brian Anson  
SCORPIO should know I have never "baited" anyone — least of all the palace favourite. To do that is tantamount to taking on the entire British system — judiciary, bishops and all. You don't do that unless you're very rich, which is a pity as

there's a lot to say and much to reveal. But that's why there's no real debate on architecture these days — only blatant, Dallas-type media hype, and that's why (in a belated response to the frustrated idiotic architect who recently asked where I have gone) I don't get involved in the architectural media these days.

There is not even a real debate about so-called "community architecture". I currently work with a community the members of which are frequently arrested, sometimes tortured and, on occasion, shot dead. Is *BD* prepared to have a debate on this?

Brian Anson  
Surrey

## Double Dutch at the RIBA

From Richard Jacques  
A COLLEAGUE of mine has just drawn my attention to a forthcoming event at the RIBA entitled "Designing out building failures". What dreadful gobbledygook is this? A course in designing out buildings — but failures? The mind boggles. I assume it means preventing

building failures or design to prevent building failures. So why not say so? And why not include preventing language failure while they're at it? Include me out of that seminar, if use of the English language is anything to go by — over and out!

Richard Jacques  
Edinburgh

## Writing an epitaph

From Peter M Buckley, principal architect, South Yorkshire County Council  
WHILE the technical press has lamented the demise of the Greater London Council architects department it would appear that the architects sections in the equally affected metropolitan counties will be allowed to disappear without an epitaph.

As an architect with South Yorkshire County Council I am permitted through your letters page to redress this situation. Even at its peak South Yorkshire's multi-disciplinary office was too small to cope with all the workload, which resulted in more than half the work being handled by either the district

councils or private practice. Nevertheless I would contend that projects spawned within the office, while not influencing architectural thinking, were competently designed and efficiently run by an enthusiastic staff who served their clients well. With only days to go it is sad to see their dispersed faces caused by the poor job prospects this politically directed farce has created in this area.

Their works will survive the upheaval but Good Friday will be anything but good. Parallels could be drawn. Peter Buckley  
Wakefield  
South Yorkshire

## Making a protest

From Sidney Gabriel  
IF any readers taking advantage of the proposed visit to the Soviet Union (10 February 28) would like to meet "Refuseniks" colleagues during their tour, would they please contact me for details. Refuseniks are those Jews in the USSR who, in complete accordance with Soviet law and constitution and their rights accorded them under the Hel-

inki Agreement which the Soviet Government signed, applied to emigrate from the Soviet Union but have had their application refused.

Most of them have been dismissed from their jobs and persecuted in many other ways. Some have been sentenced to long periods (up to 15 years) in labour camps, on trumped-up charges in show trials.

Contact with such refuseniks, colleagues and their families in their own homes will greatly enrich such a visit and add much to the visitor's education and experience.

Sidney Gabriel  
48 Kensington Gardens  
Cranbrook  
Bford  
Herts

## Letters to the editor

Letters should be typed double spaced on one side of the sheet and sent to: The Editor, *Building Design*, 30 Calderwood Street, London SE18 6QH. We reserve the right to cut or amend correspondence.

## Order... Order...

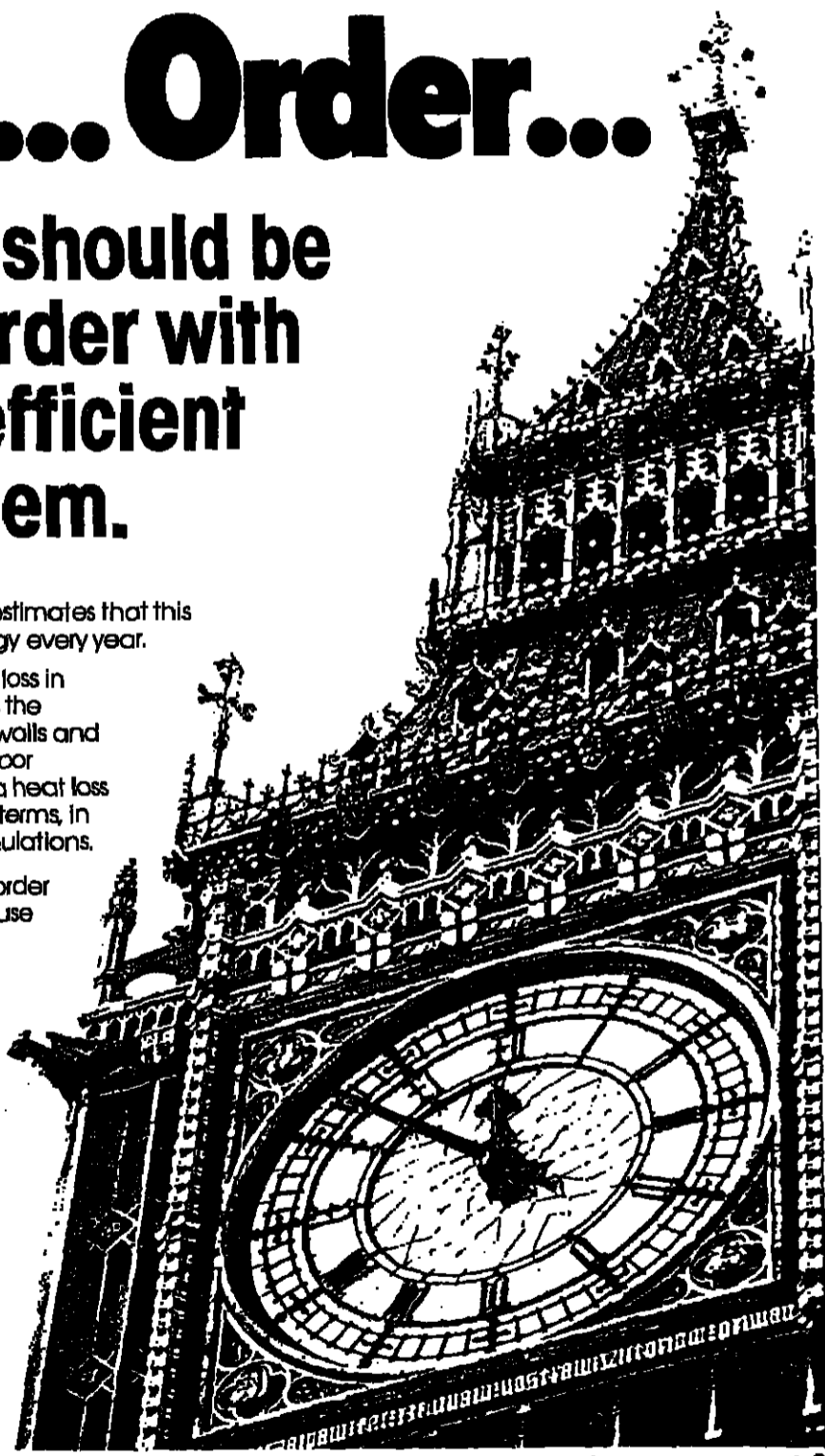
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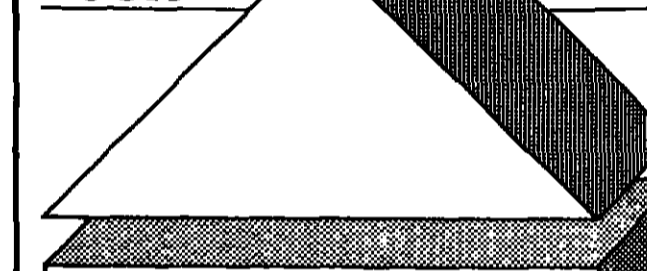


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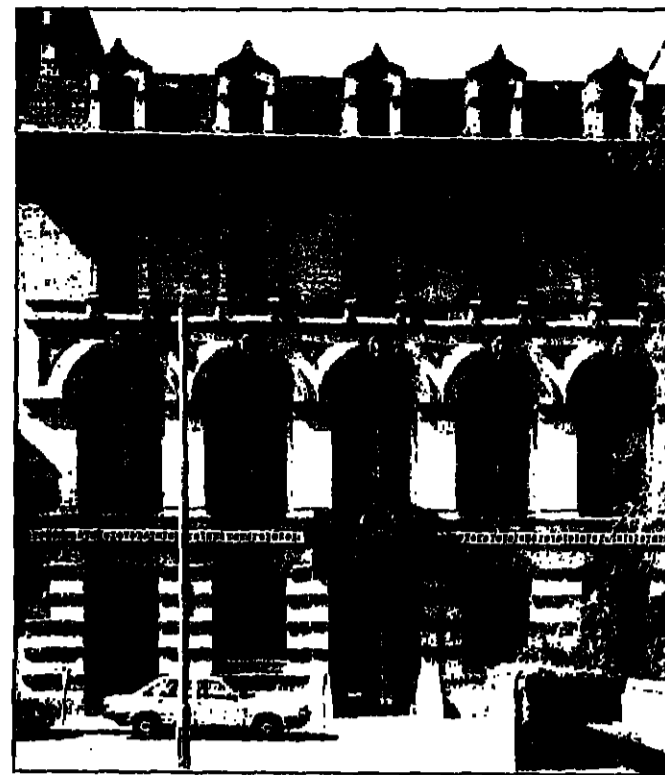
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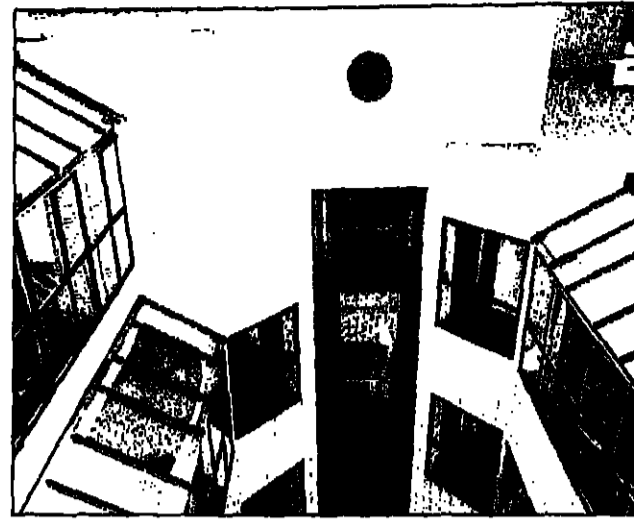
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## News in pictures



Restored facade of 'The Atrium'.



Behind the scenes... new section of 'The Atrium'.

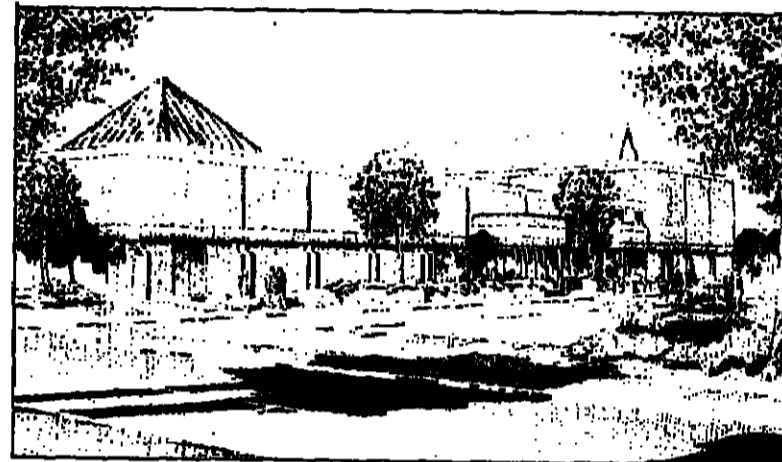
## Mather's winner

Architects John Mather & Partners earned a commendation in the 1985 Civic Trust Awards for their work on 'The Atrium' building in Manchester. Part restoration and part new-build, it provides 950sq m of office space on the upper floors, a self-contained ground-floor banking hall or showroom, two penthouse flats and a car park for 12 cars in the basement.

Other members of the team who received commendations were project architect John Manton, structural engineer Bingham Blades & Partners, building contractor J Jarvis & Sons and quantity surveyor Tweeds.



Giant panels clad the former bank.



Northampton Leisure Centre.

## Sports centre

Mason Richards Partnership have designed the £2 million Northampton Leisure Centre due to open in January 1987.

The 3,291sq m centre will include a leisure pool, sports hall with a crowd capacity of 1,000, and community rooms.

The design and build contract was won by Condor Projects Midlands.



The Abingdon Lodge Hotel.

## Riverside retreat

Work is nearing completion on the 64-bedroom Abingdon Lodge Hotel on the banks of the Thames in Oxford.

The £1.15 million project was designed by RMJM for developer Coldunell, which has now asked the architects to design a 2,700sq m office development on an adjacent site.

The hotel is scheduled for completion in May and to open in June and the offices are expected to be open by the end of the year.

## Cash on the bank

Architects Cecil Denny & High have transformed the former City bank using economic pre-cast stone panels with a conditioning ducts enclosed into the cladding and the main structure of the building.

The £1.5 million refurbishment included underpinning and reinforcing the existing foundations demolishing the old bank vaults and the sixth-floor has been retained and the first, second and third floors have been extended to create open-plan offices. Main contractor was R Mansell.

## Scorpio

## Playwright reveals his true colours

WE all know and love Alan Bennett as the mild-mannered witty playwright of '40 Years On' fame. Yet beneath this cuddly veneer, Jekyll and Hyde-style, is a very different sort of character.

This is amply revealed in a letter from Bennett to the Camden New Journal about Nick Grimshaw's proposals for a Sunbury store in Camden High Street.

The 'Englishman Abroad' author declares: 'As a professional architect is one up from the subaltern; it exists — on destruction. If there was a scheme that would make money and which had a hope of getting planning consent, architects could be found to declare that St Paul's Cathedral was of little intrinsic merit.'

Bennett goes on to mention in his modest way that: 'If Goebbels were alive today he'd be an honorary fellow of the RIBA.'

Like some other local critics, he wants the ABC Bakery building retained, preferring it to what he describes as Grimshaw's 'stale Pompidou Centre clichés'.

He doesn't want architects to have a free hand, but to 'use their imagination' and design a scheme that keeps the ABC building. Bennett is interested in the old, of course, hence his remark to the effect that in England, if you reach the age of 80 and can still eat a boiled egg everyone thinks you're marvelous. Bennett is clearly heading rapidly towards this state of affairs. He will make a wonderful target for one of the bright young satirists when they revive 'Beyond the Fringe'.

## Laying down the line

KEN Martin, Liverpool poly school head and a member of the Community Architecture Group, has been given notice (along with two others) by the group to either involve himself more in their work or to stand down.

Could this be the same Ken Martin who starred in the Royal command performance TV epic, 'The Pride Factor' last year, and the man who the RIBA wanted to impose on the group as chairman by ousting Ian Finlay?

Jim Sneddon, vice chairman of the group and resident head-banger, says: 'Don't ask me. I've only seen him on telly.'

Meanwhile the group's community projects fund has received its first bid for cash from a community group overseas: Somalia! I look forward to hearing if the application for funding, supplied by the DoE, is successful.

## No laughing matter

HOUSING, construction and urban affairs minister John Patten gave an on-the-record briefing to construction journalists at the DoE last week, at which he admitted to 'inwardly laughing' over the RIBA's rush to set up, no less than three,

committees on the inner city. Let's hope this does not lead to inwardly laughing out loud.

He also declared that it did not advance one's career prospects in the Tory party to be branded an intellectual. Patten is one, of course, being a former Oxford don, but that does not seem to have inhibited his meteoric rise to date.

## Westminster's Greek miffs

I BRING news of a spectacular row in glorious technicolour over a Terry Farrell Partnership colour scheme. It is for the facade of the Academy Editions offices in Bayswater, AE chief Andreas Papadakis is all set to dig in against Westminster council, which objects to the colours used (bright reds and yellows) to brighten up the handsome 19th century terrace building.

It is certainly eye-catching, and an improvement on the Green Lettering of the hotel next door; it also reminds me of what the Parthenon used to look like.

## The hides of March

I AM told I omitted a significant name from my 'Where are they now?' list at Christmas — none other than Lionel March, former Rector of the Royal College of Art, who has been noticeably quiet about the great design education debate. Incidentally, March holds the unique distinction of having been simultaneously the tallest and shortest RCA rector — 6ft 3in and 18 months respectively.

## Naming the third man

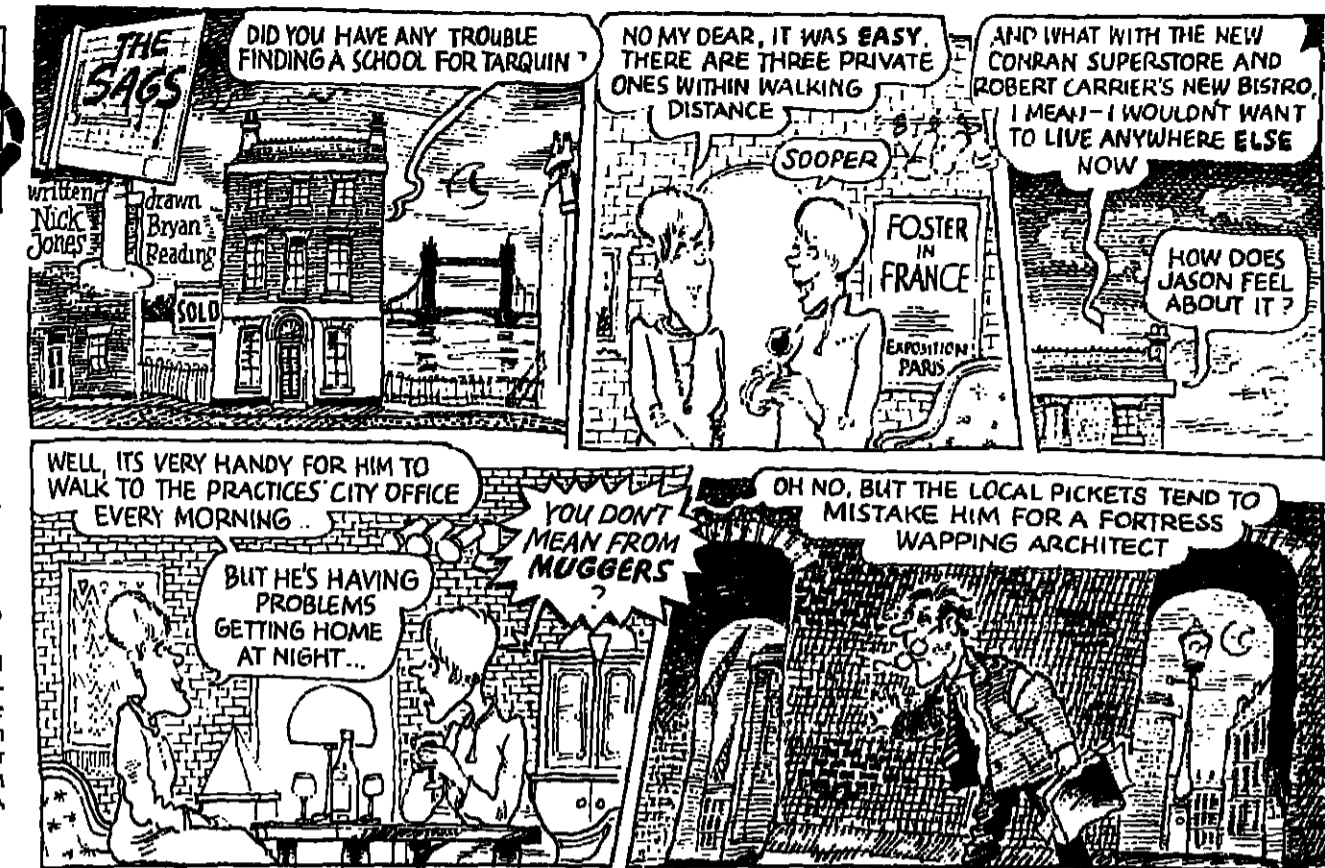
THE third member of Larry Rolland's team to receive Hunt Thompson's feasibility study on Newquay House, on behalf of the Duchy of Cornwall, has been named. He is Cecil Elsom of the well-known community architecture firm Elsom, Pack & Roberts.

As one hard-line member of the Community Architecture Group put it: 'Obviously Richard Selfert was not available.'

## 10 years ago

THE scandal of Britain's badly built and badly designed post-war council housing is revealed this week in an exclusive *Building Design* survey. It shows that local authorities throughout the country face huge repair and maintenance bills because of faults which should and could have been avoided.

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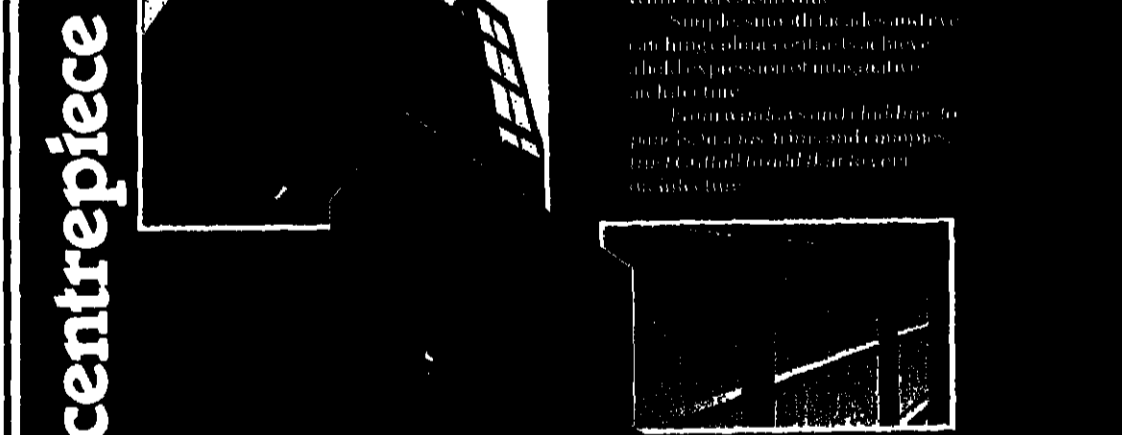
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## A masterpiece by Crittall

This state-of-the-art development on Abingdon Street, Swindon has become the town's proud new centrepiece.

The architect, Alex French Partnership, designed a concrete frame building which they envisaged had 'no staining'.

It is certainly eye-catching, and an improvement on the Green Lettering of the hotel next door; it also reminds me of what the Parthenon used to look like.

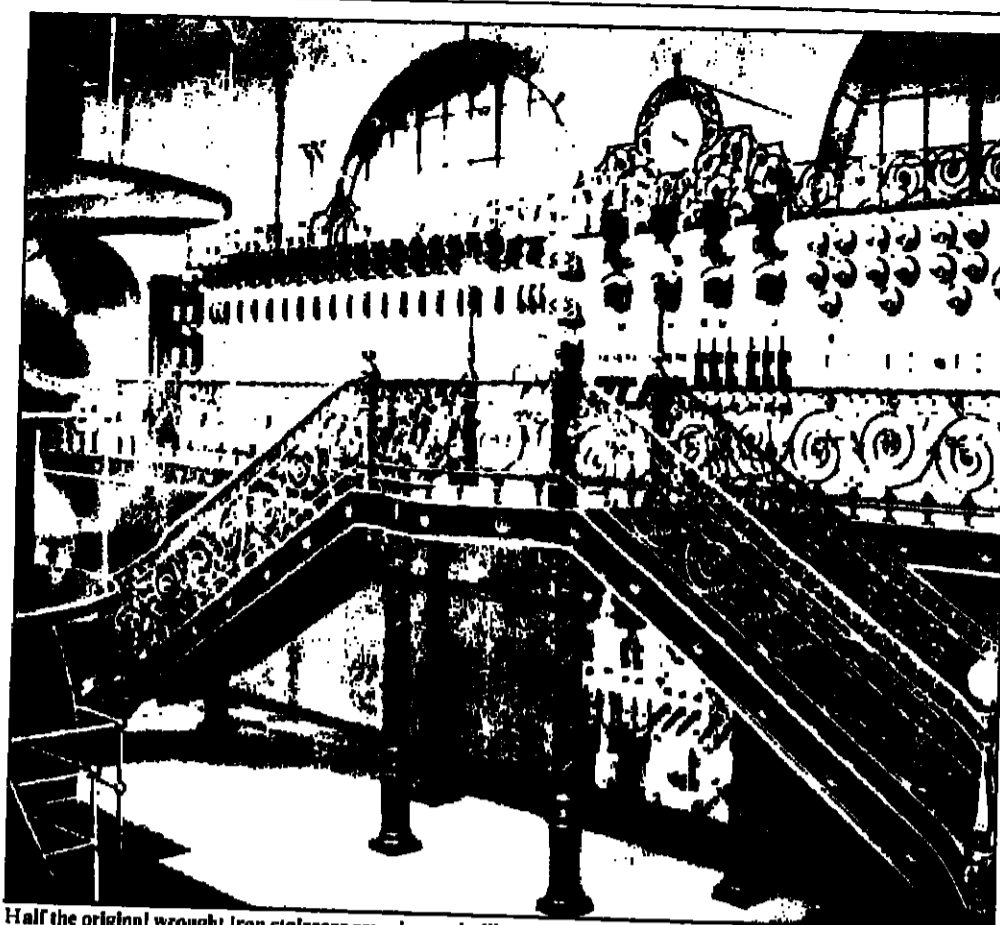


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# GENERATING IDEAS

William Curtis Green's Chiswick generating station has taken on many roles. Chris Bown examines the latest



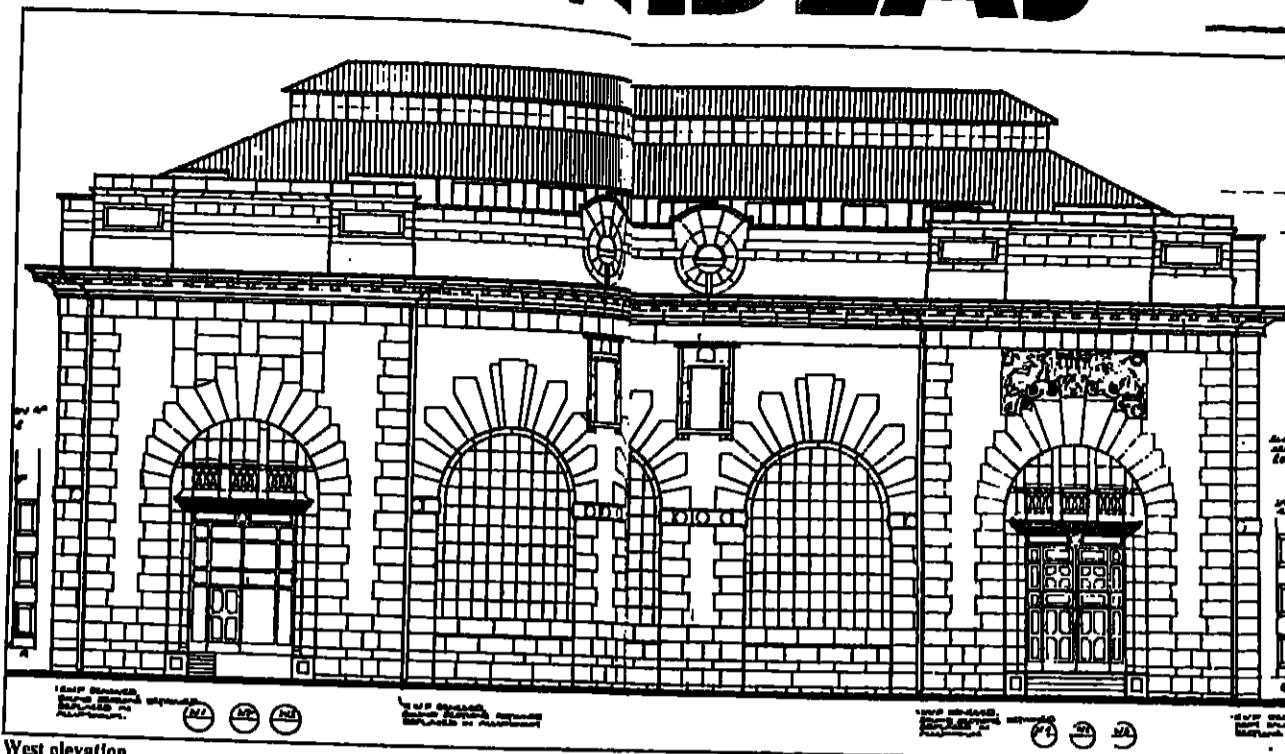
Half the original wrought iron staircase remains, and will stay in the new offices.

AN enlightened development scheme in Chiswick which promises to give one of London's follies a bright future is nearing completion.

The transformation will create 19 flats, offices and a studio from what was built in 1901 by William Curtis Green as a generating station for London's trams. Since then, uses as diverse as a substation, scenic studio and store for spare bus shelters have taken over the building — before spot Grade II listing saved it from demolition, simultaneously presenting the problem of what to do with it next.

David Clark Associates designed the scheme now going ahead at the Powerhouse, as the building has been dubbed. It makes the most of the potential of the massively designed structure, working within the constraints of access, lighting and planning restrictions.

Internally the building divides into two bays. The larger of these, behind the arched front-



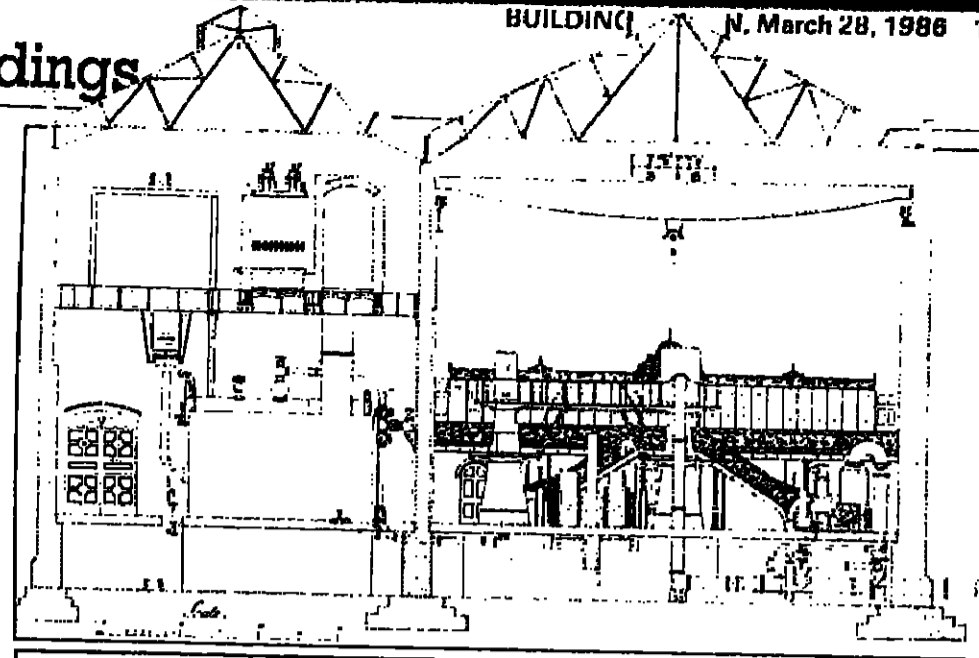
West elevation.

age, has been split in half to provide three floors of offices at one end, and a serviced cube at the other, for fitting out as a studio. Parking has been arranged in the smaller of the bays, with the presence of the motor vehicle betrayed only by an entry ramp.

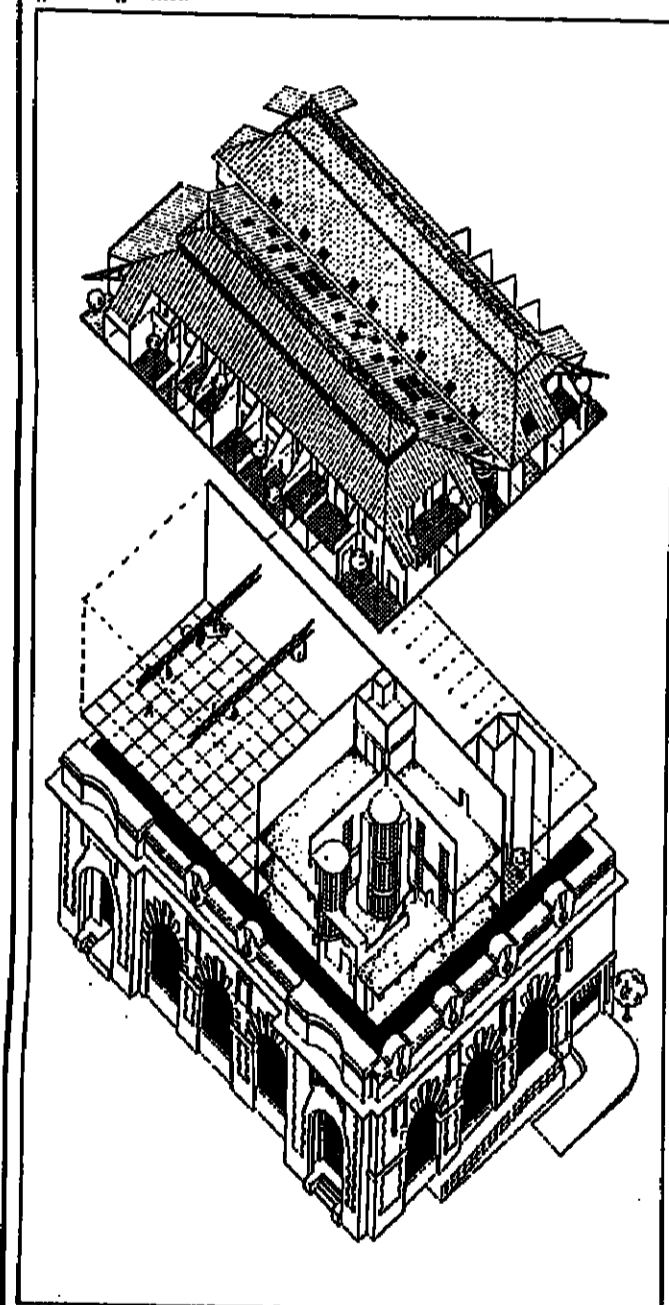
Capping the commercial body of the building is a layer of 19 flats. Built on a floor at around cornice height, these take advantage of the excellent views and exploit the potential of the existing clerestory lights. Clark says this idea was feasible because the brick walls, built to carry tonnes of coal and water, were strong enough to bear the new floor unmodified.

Although the two-floor flats seem to be introverted, each has been given its own terrace in cutways of the existing roof line.

With all of the flats sold, and some resold, Curtis Green's proud Chiswick cathedral seems set to last far longer in its latest guise than the 16 years of life it spent as a power station.



Top: original section; and below: an early photograph of the Chiswick generating station.



Exploded axonometric.

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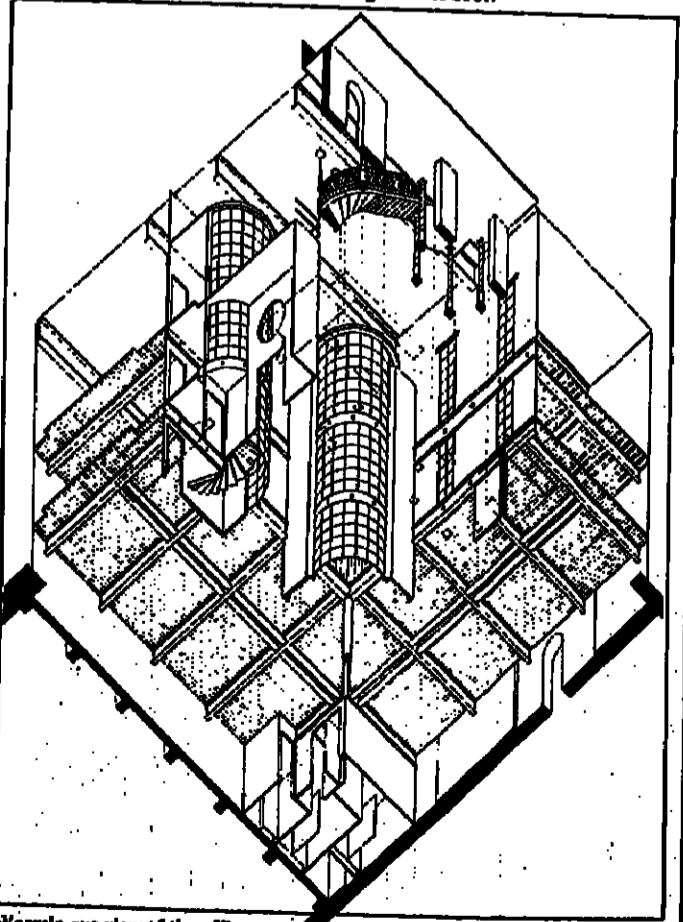
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Worm's-eye view of the offices.

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## Buildings

# MORE CASH BRINGS DASH

Arthur Talbot reports on a small commercial development in Birmingham for which the architects have attempted to break the pattern of architectural sterility in the city.

EVEN if it loses the battle to host the next Olympics, Birmingham is still set to become the building mecca of the late 1980s. The developers are moving in fast, perhaps attracted by the possibility of the international sports event, and plans are fairly well advanced to extend the massive exhibition centre.

But from what we have seen so far, the schemes being put forward for shopping, leisure and hotel complexes will do little to uplift the architectural sterility of the city centre. The architects involved have largely updated the monolithic concepts of the 60s which characterise the whole of Birmingham's central area. This is partly because of the various functions of the new buildings, but more likely because the mass of developers have yet to learn that real architectural quality is a saleable asset.

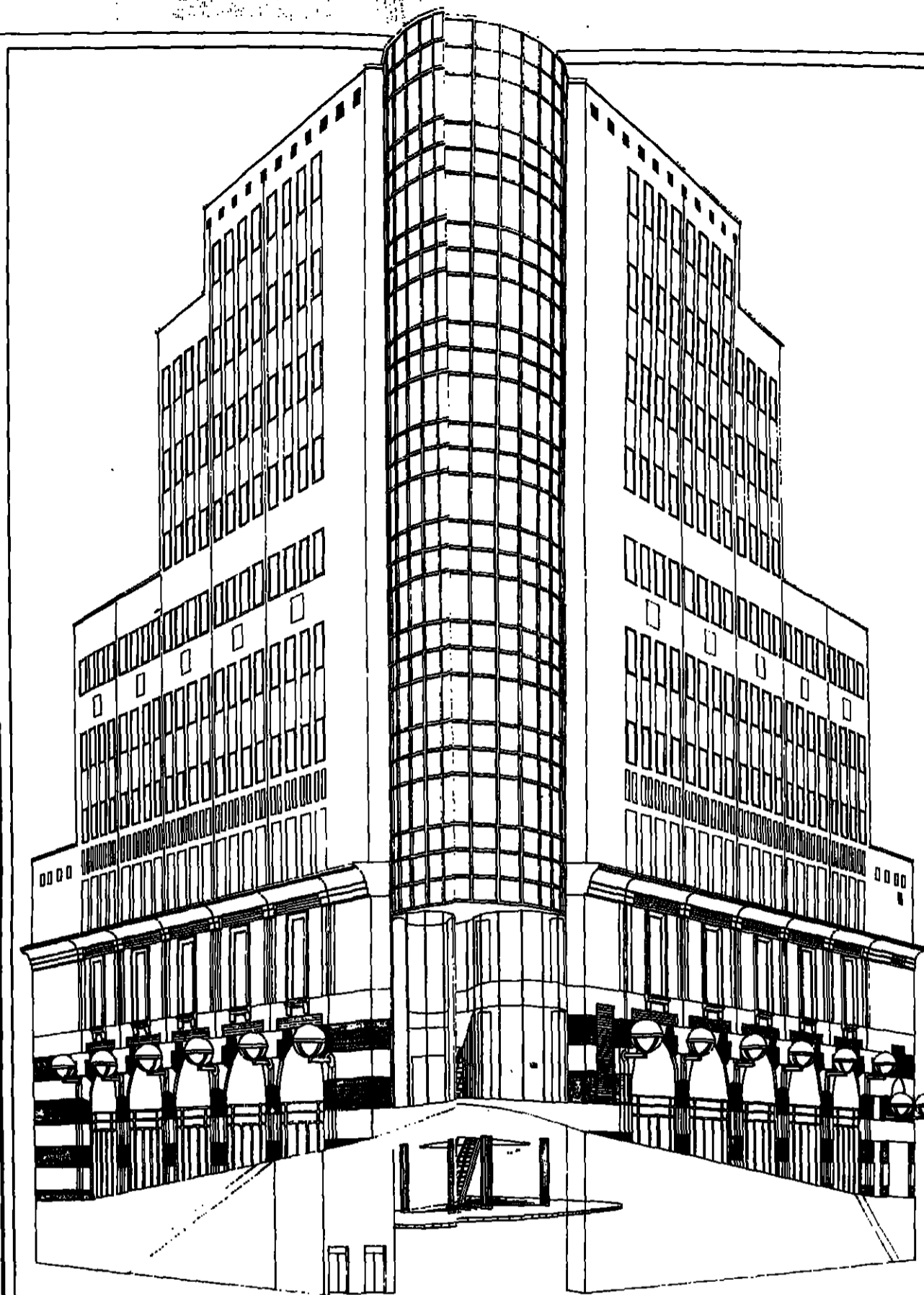
It is therefore refreshing to see a relatively small scheme close by the main New Street Station, which looks back beyond the 60s, drawing its references from Birmingham's more decorative pre-war architectural tradition. Architects Mike Blair and Paul Davis of The Halpern

Partnership have rooted out the Arts & Crafts elements still to be found in the city and have incorporated them into a modern retail and office development. "It's all there," they say. "You can even find examples of Lethaby's work in Birmingham, but you have to know where to look."

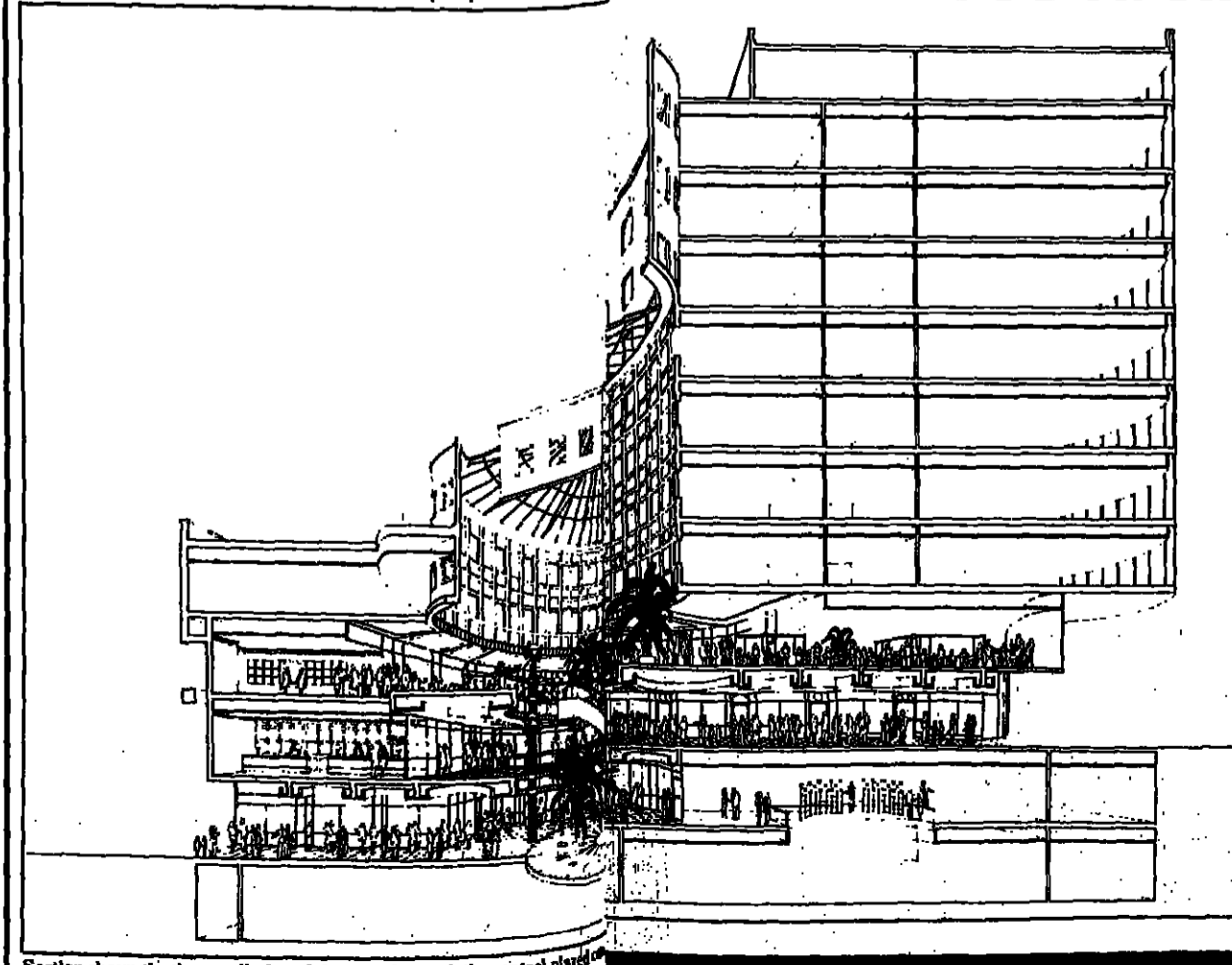
The actual form of the £20 million complex is largely dictated by the difficult site. Tucked in between two narrow streets next to the banks of England and Ireland, the wedge-shaped plot slopes steeply up towards the historic St Philip's Square.

While trying to create a lasting quality for the street facades, the architects have also faced the problem of rounding the corner to create a strong presence on to the square.

To achieve this they have used an arch motif to mark the shops along Cannon and Corporation streets. The three shopping floors visible above street level are marked by banded brick and stonework, while the seven floors of offices above are in a mix of various bricks. The Arts & Crafts influence shows in the large lamps set along the arches, which use stove-enamelled steel brackets, and in the portcullis-style door of the main shopping



The building turns an elegant corner on to St Philip's Square.



Section shows the three galleries of shopping beneath the central glass and steel structure.

## Buildings

entrance. Blair and Davis have handled the corner well, using a silvered glass column extending the full height of the building as it touches St Philip's Square. This marks the separate entrance for the offices above.

There are four floors of specialist retailing, including the lower ground level, which total 5,300 square metres. These form a solid base for the complex, while the offices are staggered to comply with light angle requirements, giving roof terraces for the office staff.

The shopping area, inaptly named City Plaza despite its lack of American influence, has three entrances, which link to form a pedestrian route through the scheme. These lead into the "circular", the glazed circular core of the building, which lights the lower ground floor and the three galleries above.

Inside the retail space Blair and Davis have tried to reflect the building's exterior to give a feeling of wholeness. The arches are there and the floor, with its starburst motif of granite and ceramic tiles, is a far cry from the bland hard finish of most contemporary retail schemes. The 5,000sq m office content is designed to modern speculative standards. But the glazed circular

drum that forms the core gives some variation to the spaces available.

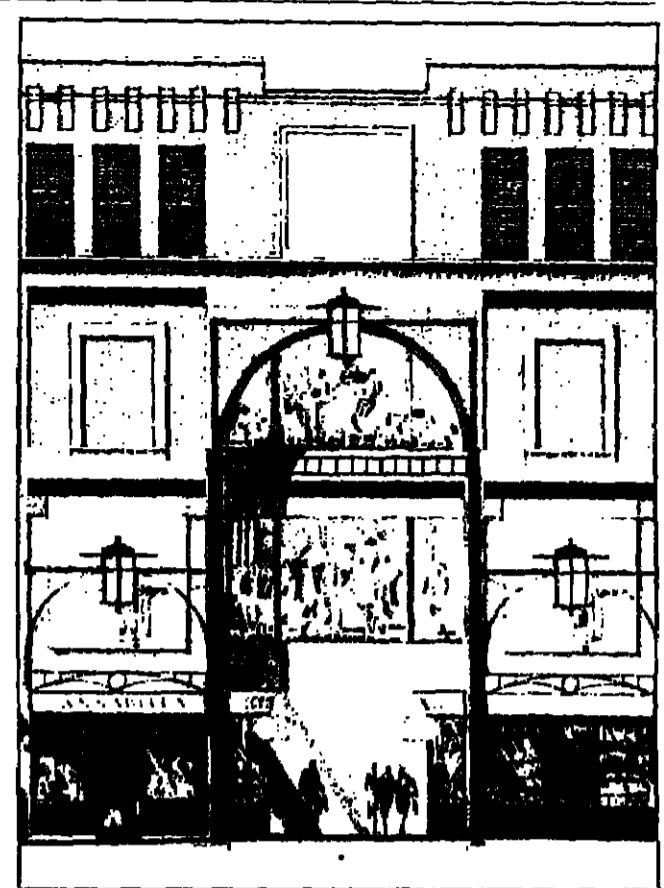
Given the tight site, parking is inevitably a problem. So far the design shows 18 car spaces in the basement, but the architects hope to bring this up to 25 by stacking the cars.

City Plaza is to go on site in April and when it is completed next year should give Birmingham's developers a better reference for their commercial schemes.

Blair and Davis admit that the quality touches and thorough design is more expensive than the standard commercial complex. "It feels like a £10 million scheme," they say, quoting the £8 million building costs.

But the architects and developer Ludbrooke City & County feel that the small extra investment is worthwhile. They are trying to create a building of some permanence, rather than add to the mass of indifferent speculative space.

Client: Ludbrooke City & County. Architects: The Halpern Partnership. Project leader: Gordon Thompson. Design architects: Mike Blair and Paul Davis. Structural engineer: Felix Samuely & Partners. Services: Brian Warwick Partnership. Quantity surveyor: Boydens.



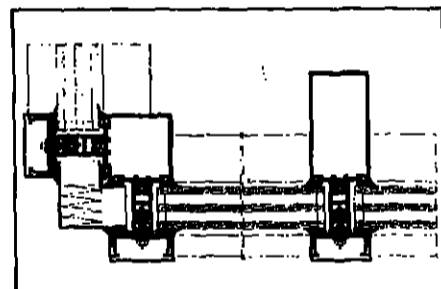
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Olympic House, Woking. Architects: T.P. Bennett Partnership.



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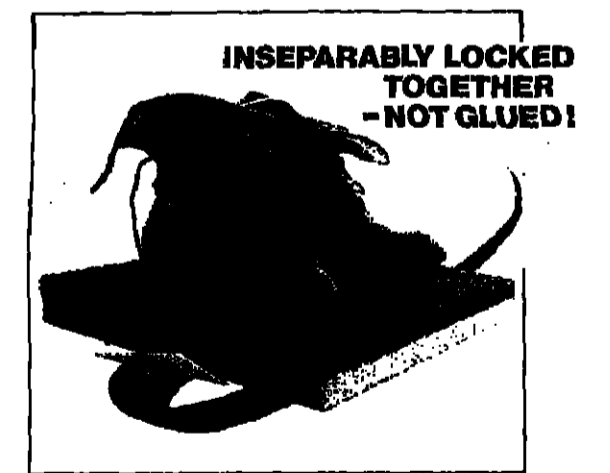
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Milan Triennale

# THE ULTIMATE AEDICULE

The 17th triennale in Milan took domestic objects as its theme. Sam Webb visited the festival.

MILAN: the walls of the Castello Sforzesco are covered with snow which falls in feathery flakes from a leaden sky, outlining the trees in white. For once the overpowering outlines of this harsh northern Italian city are softened.

If the streets are full of snow the underground is full of confetti. Millions upon millions of brightly coloured specks like stardust. There are clowns, Pierrots, a few skeletons and the odd Frankenstein's Monster. In supermarkets people queue at the checkouts like characters from a masked ball. It is carnival time in Italy.

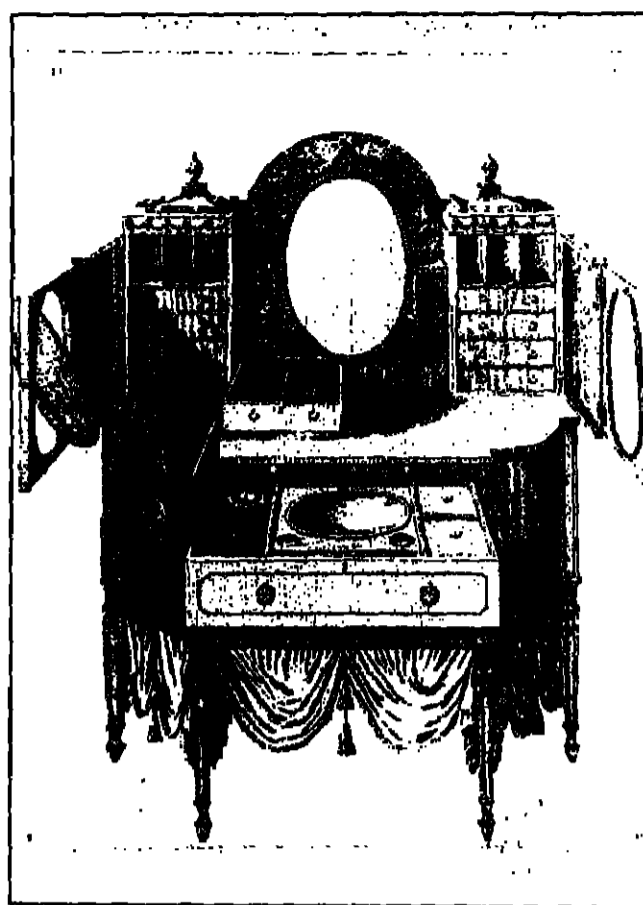
On hoardings all over the city, Laura Massa's brightly coloured poster beckons to the triennale.

The theme of the XVII Triennale di Milano is: "Domestic objects". The home of Mum: archetypes and prototypes". The catalogue weighs 2 kilos, is all in Italian and is in two parts. The cardboard case it comes in falls to pieces.

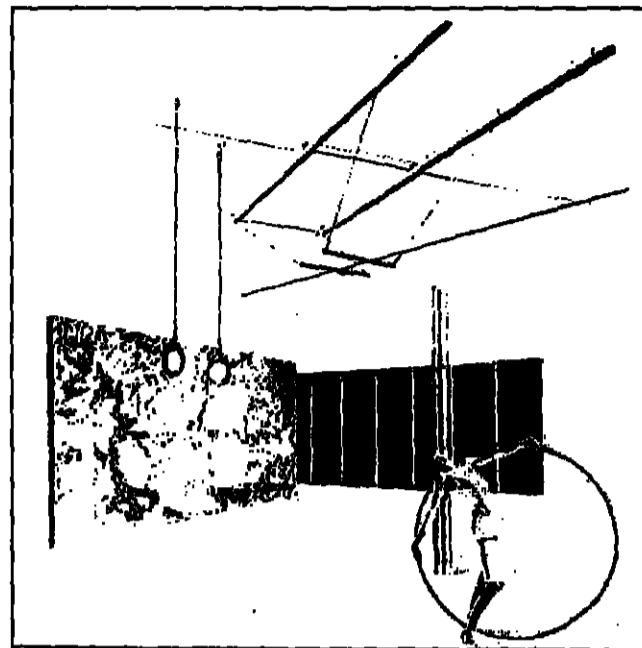
This schizophrenia in the catalogue is carried through to the exhibition itself in its sections Ancient and Modern. The exhibition is in two interlocking parts and is full of intended contrast, like Hockney and Daumier.

In Hockney's painting "Peter in Nick's Pool" the Californian sun beats relentlessly down on the damp but perfectly formed Peter and all the ultimate symbols of effortless consumerism. Daumier engraves a different picture of life. It is of Paris in the dark. Two figures, a man and a woman, watch expectantly, perhaps a little nervously, two other figures. One is at an upstairs window. But this is no Romeo serenading Juliet. This is harsh reality. The two figures are lowering the couples' furniture. They are doing a moonlight flit. Dallas meets the Eastenders at last.

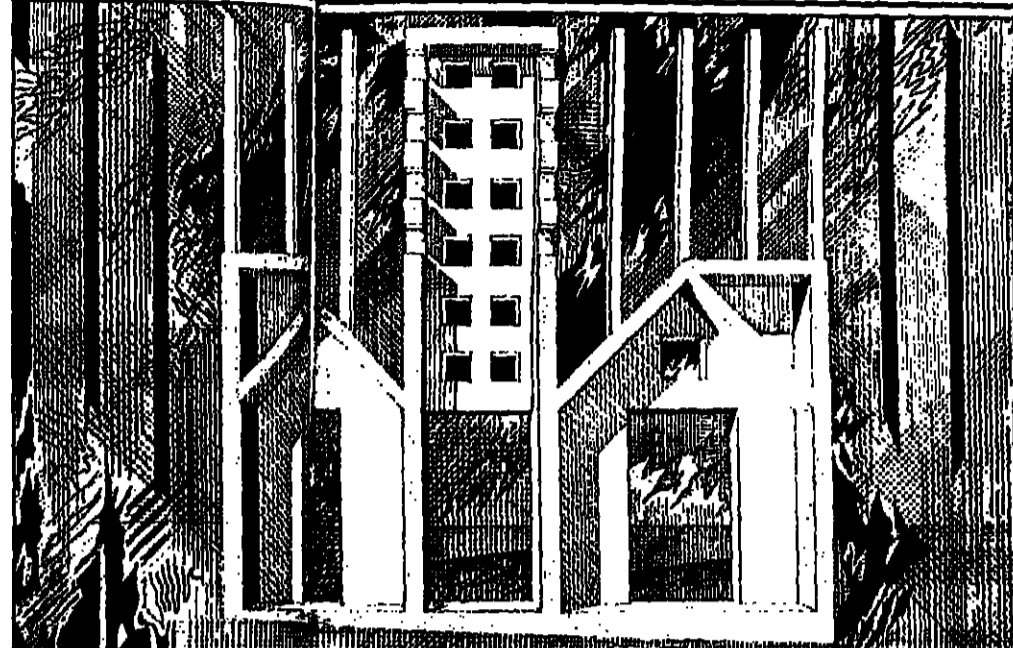
The exhibition is beautifully designed and meticulously laid out, but there is something missing from the Modern section. Is it the architecture itself?



Lady's cabinet-dressing table, Thomas Sheraton, 1792.



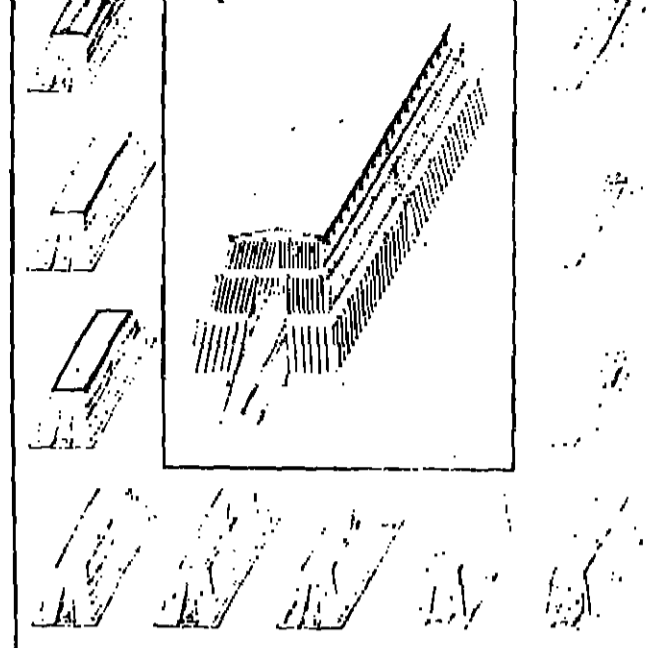
Body-building home, by Rem Koolhaas.



The primitive hut, by Franco Purini.



Bathhouse conversations.



The collector's room, by Massimo Scolari.

enigmatic upturned wooden Ark. It is mysterious, dark. You enter by a ramp.

Inside is a central display of very small drawings of exotic beasts. An earnest young man with an earnest smile these icons of a new era. What will he make of Jacques Charlier's "Woman on a bed cuddling a cushion". What would Mary Whitehouse make of the engraving from the Beaux-Arts library of two young women, one in a bath looking at what Whitehouse would only describe as "one's front bottom". Can they really be thinking what we think they are thinking? "Our feelings are a fine thing. You've got to agree Minette", says one, looking down at the one's fuzzi, "it's a real joke. When you take a look at that it's like a Bonny forest isn't it?"

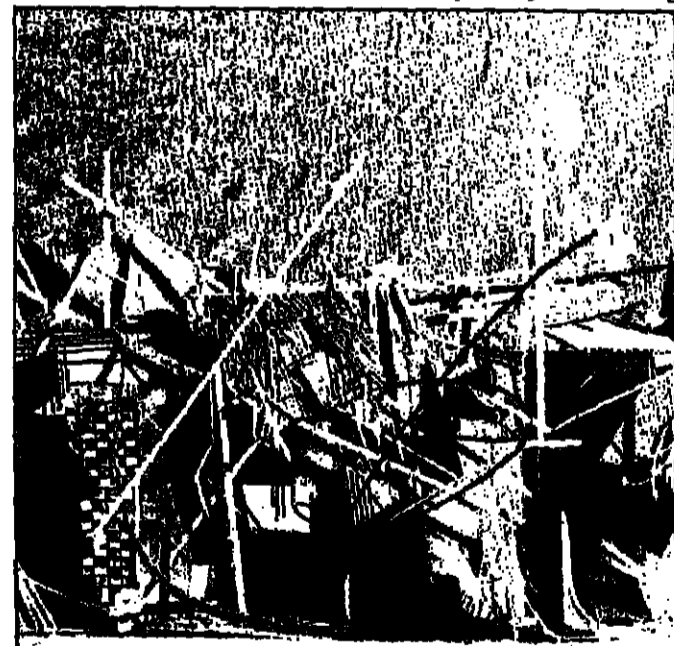
There is a great deal of humour in many of the exhibits in the historic section, but this falls flat in much of the modern architecture where the jokes are ponderous and overplayed. Viewing John Hejduk's vast mobile home that will never move one is inclined to say: "So what". None of them have the wit of the cartoons in the recent "Monstrous Carcuncles" exhibition at the Building Centre. Perhaps they should have stuck to the architecture, but that is lacking. Has architecture become a lost art?

In 1960 a British local authority school designed by Lacey, Blockley & Goodwin won the special grand prize at the triennale. This Clasp school was fully equipped and the accompanying slideshow showed the post-war schools programme to an appreciative audience. But search as you will you will find nothing like this today, and that is a tragedy for us all.

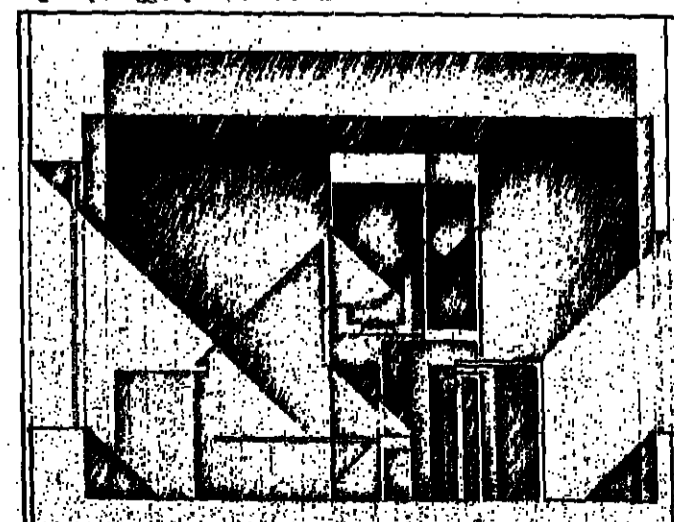
At the top of the main staircase off the entrance are two of the biggest exhibits. Huge constructions by Aldo Rossi and Mario Bellini. Rossi's "Domestic Theatre" fills the space at the back of the main stair, an enormous erection in yellow wood. At the top of the stairs Bellini's vast gray painted "Bookcase", full of models by students from Florence, runs across the floor. It shuts off further entry except through a narrow opening in the middle. Behind this lies "La stanza del collezionista".

Massimo Scolari's "Room of the Collector" sits like a vast

Somehow it all comes apart at the seams. The whole promise of this exhibition is that in the end we can all be like the Sun King. But if the architects can't deliver the goods by way of buildings then perhaps it will be out of a rucksack. Who knows?



Soglie e passaggi, by Daniele Libeskind.



La riconversione al domestico, by George Ranalli.

Blockleys Heritage has all the beauty of traditional hand thrown brick. Fortunately, that's where the resemblance ends.

JUDGED PURELY BY ITS MELLOW BEAUTY, THIS BLOCKLEYS HERITAGE BRICK COULD HAVE BEEN HANDMADE BY A TRADITIONAL CRAFTSMAN LIKE OUR FRIEND HERE.

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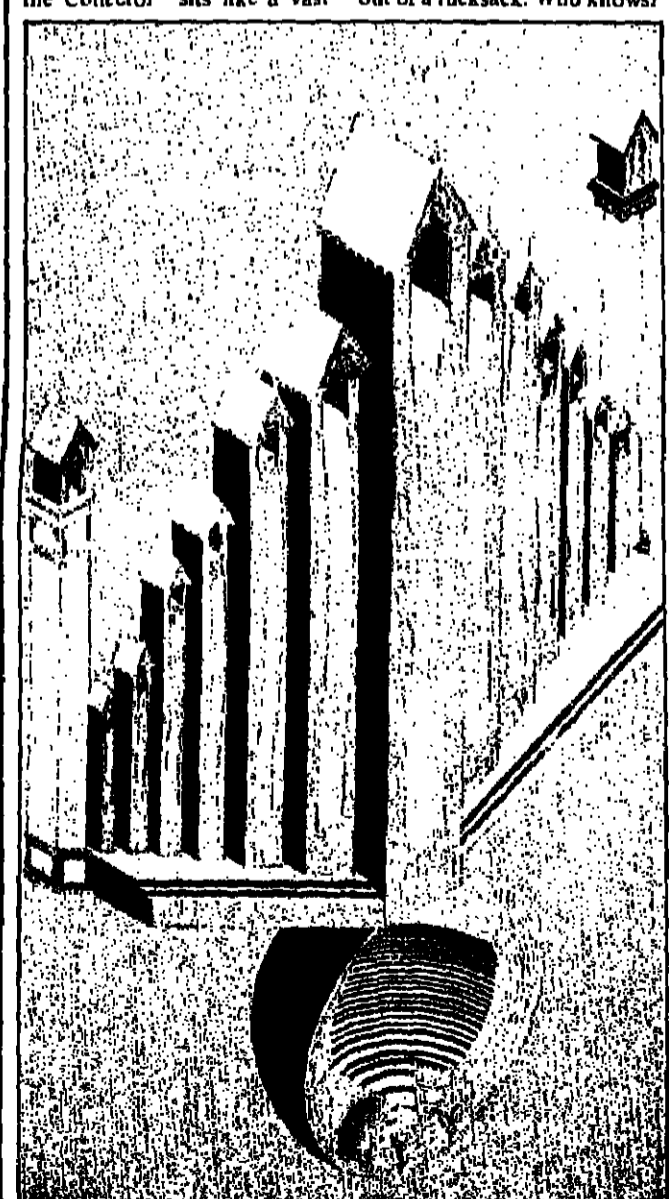
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La casa dell'infanzia, by Alice Aycock.

BUILDING  
DESIGN

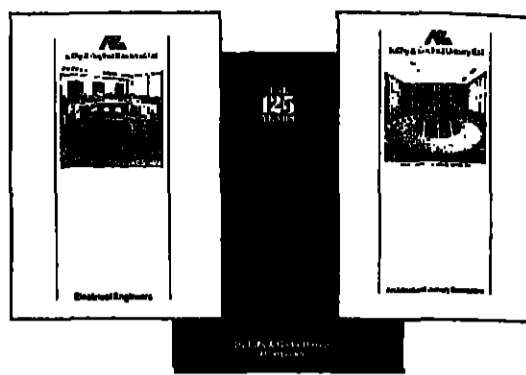
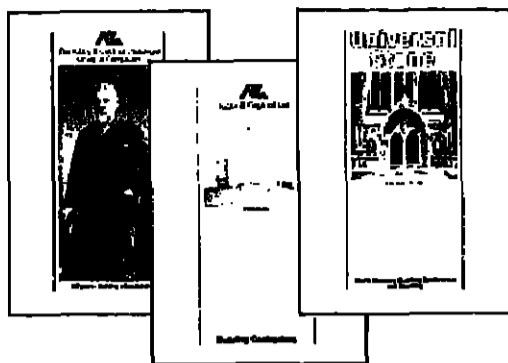
## SHOWCASE

The Killby & Gayford Group  
of Companies

— a modern approach to traditional skills

When Andrew Killby set up his building firm in Salmon Lane near Aldgate in 1880 he laid the foundations of a group of companies that today offer a wide range of specialist services within the building industry. From the very beginning the aim of the firm has been to provide workmanship of the highest possible standard, using skilled craftsmen and the best materials — a philosophy that still holds good to this day. This emphasis on quality very soon led to commissions from major companies and institutions for prestigious buildings in and around London. By the outbreak of the Great War, Killby and Gayford had been responsible for buildings such as the Marshall and Snodgrass department store in Oxford Street, the London and Westminster Bank in the Strand and the Shoreditch Town Hall. In all the work we carry out, our skilled and reliable workforce is closely supervised by a young and dedicated management team, headed by Michael May, the great grandson of the founder. This ensures that contracts are completed to a high standard and within the required schedule — in accordance with the traditions of the firm.

For complete details fill in enquiry number 6000



## Denzcrete Building Blocks

To build with confidence — build with Denzcrete. That's the message in the newly published Denzcrete Specifiers Guide. It's a real handy and contains all the architect, specifier or builder needs to know about Denzcrete building blocks. To get your copy of this information-packed guide, contact E.C.C. Quarries now. E.C.C. Quarries Limited, Northernhay House East, Northernhay Place, Exeter, Devon EX4 3OP. Telephone: Exeter (0392) 82231.

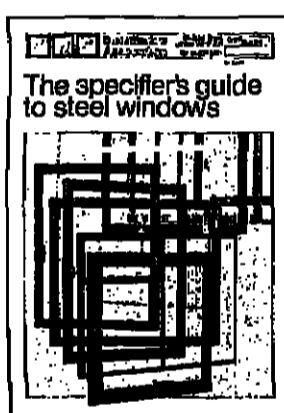
For complete details fill in enquiry number 6001



## I.M.I. Santon

This new leaflet by IMI Santon Ltd, the specialists in electric liquid heating, illustrates how best to take advantage of the Off Peak electrical tariffs now on offer. The 4 page colour leaflet details a range of products and packages that have been specifically designed to achieve considerable savings in domestic, commercial and industrial liquid heating costs. The literature is concerned with water heating efficiency and assisting to choose the right package for new and existing water heating systems.

For complete details fill in enquiry number 6005

Steel Window Sales Set To  
Expand in 1986

One of Britain's most established, but underrated, building components — the steel window — is set on an expansion course in 1986. With signs of increasing demand for domestic and commercial/industrial steel windows, market prospects for 1986 look good, according to the Steel Window Association. First manufactured commercially in the UK as far back as 1818, steel windows have naturally changed considerably over the last 160 years.

The modern steel window, with its integrally bonded zinc coating to prevent corrosion and deterioration and its smart and durable factory-applied finish, is a very different product from its predecessors.

Steel windows from the members of the Steel Window Association are all made from hot rolled sections of consistent quality and are fabricated and finished to British Standards.

For complete details fill in enquiry number 6002



## Patterned Glass

Send for the colourful and informative 10-page leaflet covering the range of Patterned Glass by Pilkington Glass Limited. Produced with the Architect and Builder in mind, it illustrates each of the 15 patterns in the range, some contemporary, some traditional, with examples of their use. Also included is a section on safety glazing and a table giving a detailed specification of the range. This indicates thicknesses and colours available, obscuration values, and their suitability for double glazing, toughening and laminating.

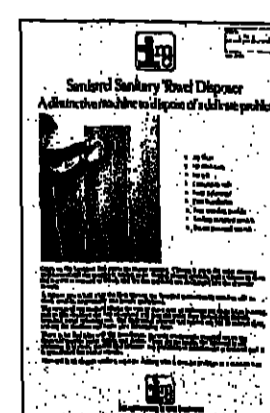
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## Edition 77

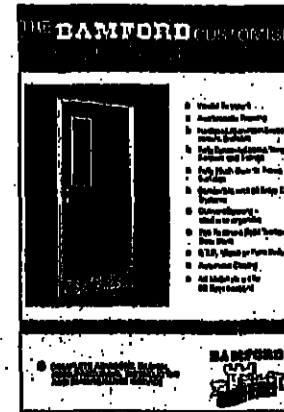
Edition 77 of the Matthews catalogue provides a concise summary of the costs of buying office furniture in 180 full colour pages. It includes the new TEAMWORK systems furniture — with complete cable control. 88,000 copies have been distributed but more are available from Matthews Office Furniture Limited, 61-63 Dale Street, Liverpool L69 2DN.

For complete details fill in enquiry number 6003

Hygienic Disposal of  
Sanitary Towels

By now the first choice of many architects and authorities, the Sanitrol disposes of a delicate problem quietly, hygienically and thoroughly. Within thirty seconds the sanitary towel is shredded into tiny particles in running water and discharged to the drainage system. The machine is completely automatic in operation, starting as a towel is inserted and switching itself off after a complete disposal and washing down cycle of 1½ minutes. Other towels may be inserted during the cycle, each resetting the sequence to ensure that the last towel is dealt with and the machine and waste pipe are thoroughly clean.

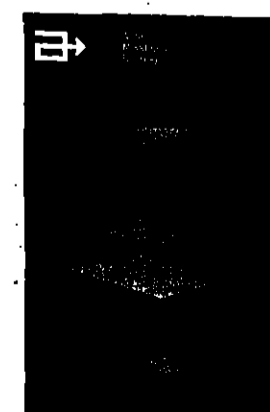
For complete details fill in enquiry number 6007



## Vandal Resistant Doors

Protect and improve the appearance of your property by installing a Barnford security door. They are supplied with a framing system and offer a very high degree of resistance to vandalism. Doors are solid timber finished with anti-vandal paint, glass reinforced plastic, sheet steel, etc., and all edges are protected with aluminium extrusions fixed with non-removable screws. Frames are heavy duty aluminium with all fixings to the structure concealed. Matching screens with a wide variety of infills are also available. Barnfords offer an installation and maintenance service.

For complete details fill in enquiry number 6004

Altro Floors — The Only Complete  
Range of Safety Flooring

Altro's 30 years of experience of manufacturing and installing vinyl safety flooring has proven conclusively that one surface configuration cannot achieve all safety and hygiene objectives. Now, there are four complementary ranges of Altro Safety Flooring, each with a proven performance — supplying underfoot safety in specific environments.

X28. Thickness 2.8mm. Long, established and proven, the standard-duty safety flooring.  
X38. Thickness 3.8mm. Extra tough and extra slip-resistant for the toughest safety flooring requirements.  
D28. Thickness 2.8mm. The 'Designer Range' with the added strength and beauty of natural quartz.  
T20. Thickness 3.0mm. Ergonomically textured to achieve barefoot safety economically.

For complete details fill in enquiry number 6006

ICI Paints put masonry  
paint to the test

TWO studies have been carried out by ICI Paints Division, which have yielded some interesting, independently verified facts concerning its Weathershield smooth masonry paint.

The first study, the Weathershield Challenge, was monitored by members of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. This test was intended to check the claim that Weathershield is significantly quicker and more easy to apply than conventional grit-filled masonry paints. ICI's Weathershield Challenge was taken up by two painting contractors working in different parts of the UK. Each had two identical properties to redecorate and each agreed to use Weathershield on one and another conventional masonry paint on the other. The result in both cases was a time saving of approximately 30 per cent on the Weathershield example. Various control devices were introduced, such as paint

teams switching half way. Test number two involved the exposure of Weathershield and eight competing brands of masonry paints on concrete and asbestos cement substrates. These samples were exposed to the southern sky at an angle of 45deg to the vertical to ascertain their weathering performance. After nine months the Weathershield coated substrates were the only ones not showing any signs of serious defects; after six years they were still demonstrating an acceptable appearance, while the competitors' products had deteriorated badly.

Harold Hudson

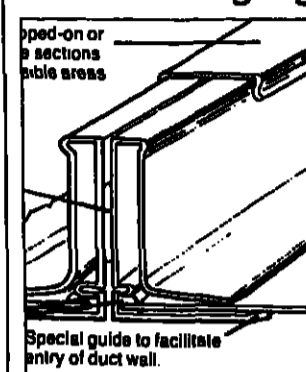
## Mirror wardrobes

MIRAGE wardrobe systems are available from Glosial in a variety of panel widths and heights which can be tailor-made to fit any individual room. Among the colours offered are polished brass, polished bronze, polished copper, brushed silver and white. These sturdy frame sections are produced in aluminium and are fitted with white, bronze or peach coloured mirrors. Mirage mirror doors are suitable for use on cupboards in many other rooms in the house, as well as the bedroom.



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## Instant flanging



DUCTMATE, a self-sealing, slide-on flanging system, has been introduced by Zest Equipment to reduce substantially the labour content in duct creation. Light weight and easy to assemble, the galvanised steel system creates light, smart, leak-proof connections and ensures duct alignment. Each joint incorporates a permanent, integral, non-hardening mastic sealant and easily applied gasket tape.

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## CONCRETE REPAIR

TRETOSHIELD is a new comprehensive system for the treatment and repair of most kinds of defective concrete structure, recently introduced by Tretol, a company which has specialised in developing protective paints and coatings.

It will not only rectify the damage caused by excessive carbonation and subsequent corrosion of the reinforcement, it will also ensure maximum protection against future deterioration. The Tretoshield system consists of seven products. There is a twin-pack epoxy

reinforcement primer; a bonding slurry powder which is used with Tretoshield Polymer; a repair mortar, also used with Tretoshield Polymer; a levelling mortar to provide high alkaline protection; a flexible elastomeric undercoat which is water-thinnable, and Finish 128, a protective coating in colours or clear, which is abrasion resistant and protects against carbon dioxide, chloride and water penetration.

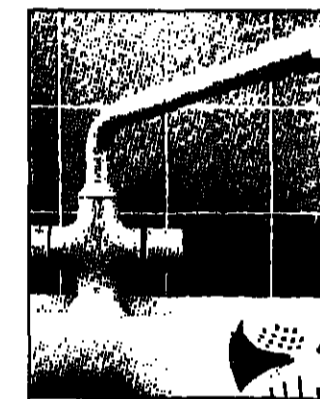
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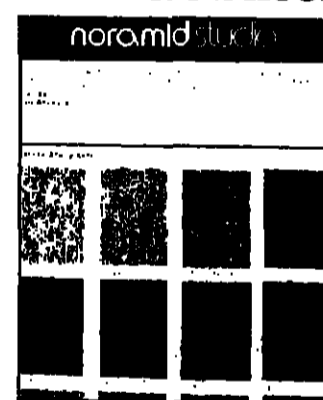
## Ceramic mixer

DURABLE ceramic disc technology has gone into the Cruciform 216 kitchen mixer which is now available from Windsor Water Filings. Incorporating a 225mm divided flow spout to suit a variety of sink bowl designs and to ensure the two water pressures in use in the UK are kept separate, the spout has an anti-splash profile. With 15mm connection tubes for swift and simple installation, the Cruciform is available in grey, red, white, beige, mocha brown and chrome finish.



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## Needlefelt flooring



IN line with the declared Carl Freudenberg policy of regularly reviewing the colour ranges in which its products are marketed, new colours have been introduced to the Noramid Studio range of 100 per cent synthetic needlefelt floorcoverings. The previous range of eight colours (seven of which have been retained) has been extended to 12. New arrivals are Dark Beige, Dark Brown, Anthracite, Bottle Green and Cobalt Blue.

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## Metal coatings

THIS spring will see the launch of a complete new range of coatings for the preservation of steelwork and non-ferrous metals by Permoglaze Paints. Christened the Permoglaze High Performance Coatings, these paints demonstrate qualities of flow and sag resistance and ease of application. With the exception of the Metal and Etch Primers, the remaining 19 products have been formulated on a "high flash" basis so no special storage requirements are necessary. This means that they satisfy the new EEC requirements.



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Control  
system

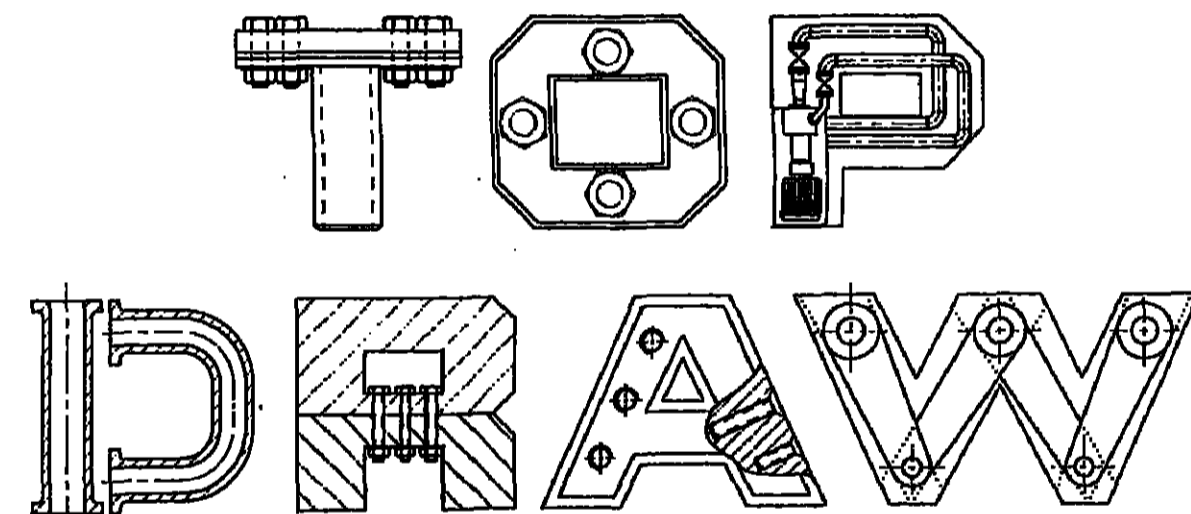
WHETHER the system to be controlled is for fire detection, security, building management services or automation and process control, the Zeigler microprocessor-based data acquisition and control system from Zettler, is likely to fit the bill. It allows the user to collate all relevant information and the system can handle both digital and analogue signals.

Enter 104 ON EXPRESS ENQUIRY CARD

Blocks for  
painting

BECAUSE of their close texture, Denzcrete building blocks from E.C.C. Quarries can be directly painted without any prior preparation. Carefully selected aggregates give a fine texture and low porosity, while strengths range from 3.5N/mm<sup>2</sup> upwards. Available nationally, Denzcrete blocks are dimensionally accurate, have a low drying shrinkage and a high fixing capacity.

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## No 22

7

# CL, 2 & 3 SITE PREPARATION

BY HENRY HAVERSTOCK

tel: 01-267 7676 with comments or criticisms

## REQUIREMENT

**C1** The ground to be covered by the building shall be reasonably free from vegetable matter.

**C3 Subsoil drainage shall be provided if it is needed to avoid (a) the passage of ground moisture to the interior of the building or (b) drainage to the fabric of the building.**

**APPROVED  
DOCUMENT**

This must have been one of the more difficult approved documents to write. A lot could be said on each aspect—but little is said, presumably because, in the end, it is difficult to lay down clear levels of performance that are to be met.

## SITE PREPARATION

the AD describes the minimum provisions for site preparation. In view of the overlap with other requirements it is hard to see why this requirement remained in the RCRs at all.

9 "Turf and other vegetable matter should be removed  
10 from the ground to be covered by building at least to a  
11 depth sufficient to prevent later growth." There is an  
12 overlap here with C2 because the growth and  
13 decomposition of the vegetable matter could be  
14 considered as a contaminant (vegetation is, in fact listed  
15 as a possible contaminant in table 2 of this AD). You don't  
16 have to remove the turf if the building is only used for  
17 storage or if removing the turf would not "serve to  
18 increase protection to the health and safety of any  
19 persons habitually exposed in the building".

It is read that the building will meet the performance if the ground to be covered by the building does not

**THREE** new condensing gas boilers, directed at the domestic market, have been introduced by Trisave Boilers. Turbo 22 and 30 are new kitchen-mounted boilers with outputs of 6.5kW and 8.8kW. Their use could cut fuel bills significantly for anyone paying over £150 per year. The FS60 is a spot-rated development of the existing 12/18 floor standing unit. It has an attractive glass front and an output of 17.9kW. A improved efficiency of 93.5 per cent is claimed.

Enter **124** ON EXPRESS ENQUIRY CARD

### Plastic plugs

**RAWPLUG** has reintroduced its Rawplug in a new and improved form. Ideal for making fixings into awkwardly shaped holes, the compound, which comes in plug form, is soaked for a minute in water before being rammed into the hole. It contains inert fibres which enable it to bind around the screw. Once in place the compound sets hard, allowing screws to be placed, removed and replaced without damaging the plug.

## Personal safe

**INTENDED** to be fixed in each hotel bedroom, the ServiSafe from Halberd Security is an individual steel safe with an interchangeable LockBlock. ServiSafe keys and LockBlocks are unnumbered, untraceable and are dispensed to guests on a random basis. No duplicate keys or master keys exist. The LockBlock simply slips into the slot on the door of the safe and locks in place when the key is removed. The exterior measurements of the safe are 450mm x 300mm x 200mm.

Enter **122** ON EXPRESS ENQUIRY CARD

## Window grilles

NOW available from the nationwide Protogril network of authorised Orsogrill fabricators, Orsogrill Window Guards are manufactured from electrofused steel grating and can be supplied to suit varying security and visual limitations. They are available in hot-dip galvanised and powder-coated finishes and be permanently fixed, removable or hinged.

## Security window


## Floodlight

FOR use with a 70 watt Solarcolour SON lamp, the new Sonstar floodlight from Osram-GE features the Osram Quickfit plug and socket device for easy electrical connection of the fitting to 240v 50Hz supplies. With a slim grp body and tough polycarbonate cover (Class 1 to IP64 rating), the Sonstar is particularly suited to exterior security lighting for small or medium size premises.

### Improved patio door

To be known as the Mark II, Hillaldeen Coburn's new Solair 10 patio door has been updated following three successful years on the market. Changes include: a new locking system to give improved security, modified sill, sill adaptor and fixed panel to make installation easier, and improved weathering to give Grade III air infiltration and Grade IV water penetration. Full details are in a new eight-page brochure.

## Insulated shutter



## ALUMINIUM RANGE

## ALUMINIUM RANGE

**GLOSTAL'S** System 4 is much more than a simple window range or curtain wall. It encompasses windows, doors, curtain walls and ground-floor framing for shop fronts. Even the window section of the family is unusually comprehensive, incorporating turn and tilt windows, pivot windows, horizontal and vertical sliding windows and a full range of casements.

System 4 is the culmination of 25 years of technical know-how of a company which works very closely with architects, designers and specifiers. The result is a system which allows design freedom with

an outstanding range of options. Colour, too, is catered for with a variety of anodised and polyester powder paint finishes.

At the basis of System 4 is the framing, which is deceptively simple, consisting of two members (102mm x 46mm and 75mm x 25mm) which are either complete rectangular extrusions, or are made up of interlocking sections.

Enter 127 FREE INFORMATION CARD

# Architectural & Construction BOOKSHOP

The books listed below are available through the Architectural & Construction Bookshop. A special service for readers is provided by Morgan-Grampian Construction Press.

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

**On Earth—Architecture: People and Buildings** by Charles Kneivt. This lavishly illustrated book of the current Channel 4 series takes a first look at some key issues of architecture and planning over the last 100 years: cities; skyscrapers; mass housing; conservation; and future cities, including computer architecture. Price £9.85 (paperback), £19.95 (hardback). Inc. P+P.

## ORDER FORM

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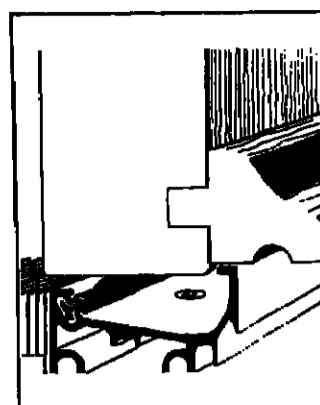
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BD 28/3/8

## New products

## Threshold seal

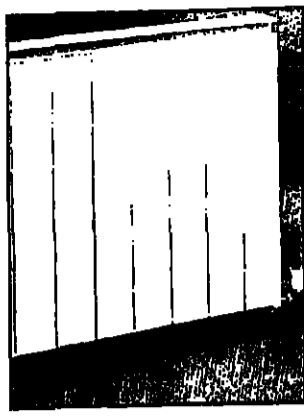
DESPIITE 30 years of consistent use the Winton two-piece aluminium threshold from Nelson & Barclay is still capable of being improved. The result is the new Winton threshold with a flexible draught seal set into the trough threshold moulding. This presses up against the underside of the door, the action of the wind improving the tightness of its seal. The threshold comes in mill or brass anodised finish.



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## Radiators

EXPLOITING the "chimney" effect with convected air drawn through the integrally formed chimney to give maximum output of heat, the new Quasar radiator from Bird Thermal Products is constructed in extruded aluminium to the requirements of BS 6063. Each section of radiator is 100mm wide and 95mm deep and is produced in four standard heights. Radiators have a 12mm BSP air vent and 19mm BSP bottom tapping. Extrusions for their construction are supplied by Midland Extrusions.



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## Practical offices

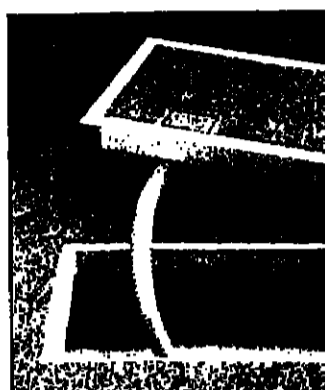
AESTHETICALLY pleasing and extremely practical, the Accord range of system furniture has been introduced by Carson Office Furniture. Available in light grey laminate, the range offers "feature lines" in a choice of five colours. Accord units include desk, integral or freestanding storage and a choice of slab-end or cantilever leg-frames. Screens are available in 15 colours with integral wire management.



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## Access floor box

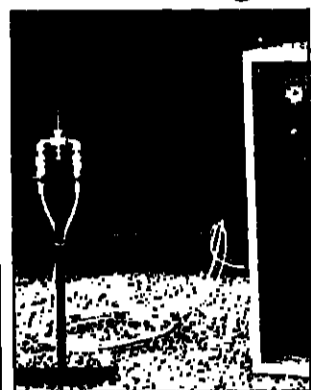
SUPPLIED in either two- or four-gang forms, the new floor box for platform floors, introduced by Giffels-Key, has a range of accessory plates to meet all normal requirements. It is suitable for access floors with a panel thickness from 20mm to 75mm and a total depth of floor (panel plus void) of 85mm. Full segregation of cabling is possible, permitting cables of different voltages to be housed in the same box.



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## Anti-odour gear

TACKLING the growing problem of smelly industrial processes, Odour Control Systems has launched a new range of compounds and application equipment which can tackle all manner of odour nuisance. Based on well documented, scientific principles, this company's systems can be applied by automatic, electronically controlled sprays which are designed to tackle odour problems in the exhaust systems of process plant.



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## Office furniture

TO be launched at IDI in May, additional items to the System II range of office furniture from Gordon Russell extends its range throughout the whole office hierarchy. New items include the executive desk in walnut, desk-related screens, conference and occasional tables, screen-hung storage units and an improved electrical wire management desk. Additional fabrics, alternative timbers and better wire management are all extra design features of the enlarged range.



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## New profile

UNPROPPED spans up to 3.6m are possible using Precision Metal Forming's new CF60 steel profile for composite flooring. This complements the already well-known PMF CF46 profile. The larger chevron pattern on the profile is arranged in a reverse direction on each rib to provide restraint to movement in either direction, together with better composite action. The ribs are said to save the equivalent of 24mm thickness of concrete.



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## Turnstiles



IMPROVED turnstile image — that is the aim of the new Charon turnstile, available in this country from Camor. Employing waist-high, plain or tinted Plexiglass revolving panels, these units, manufactured by Gallenshutz in West Germany, come with stainless steel or aluminium alloy columns and guide bars. The Plexiglass is as rugged as steel, despite its lightness. A locking mechanism can be located below floor level to bar two-way or one-way use.

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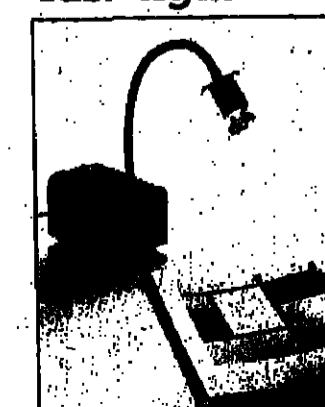
## Temporary building

FOR all those applications where a temporary building is required, the Shellaire air support structure from Aircad provides an instant, cost-effective solution. Its form of construction obviates the need for air locks, allowing all manner of opening conformations, from single person and doors to fully open gable ends. Translucent sections admit daylight without sacrificing the insulating properties of side walls. All seams in the heavy gauge flame-retardant PVC-covered nylon fabric are stitched.



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## Task light



AVAILABLE from SSK Lighting, the new Shu Ky Kan task light, the Dinosaur — has a large body, housing the transformer, and a flexible neck. The light source is a built-in reflector halogen bulb in which heat is transmitted backwards through the dichroic glass. The fitting is black, stands on four adjustable feet and has a double intensity switch. Its cost is a little short of £100, including light source.

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## Dateline

Items for consideration must be received 10 days prior to publication

## This week

Saturday April 27  
The architecture of Adolf Loos, exhibition organised by the Arts Council.  
Venue: Third Eye Centre, Glasgow.  
Details: 01-629 9495.

Saturday — May 4  
New Image Glasgow, exhibition of the work of Ken Curtis.  
Venue: Arncliffe Gallery, Bristol.  
Details: (0272) 299 191.

Saturday — May 4  
No Pasaran, exhibition of photographs and posters of the Spanish Civil War.  
Venue: Arncliffe Gallery, Bristol.  
Details: (0272) 299 191.

Tuesday  
Bombay, lecture by Christopher London as part of the "Great 19th century cities" series organised by the Victorian Society.  
Venue: Leighton House, London W4.  
Details: 01-994 1019.

Wednesday  
Ventilation and air-infiltration, seminar organised by the Energy Efficiency Centre as part of their "Energy efficiency measures in housing and other buildings" series.  
Venue: Building Centre, London WC2.  
Details: 01-637 1022.

Wednesday — April 26  
Exhibition of stained glass by Christine Kirby.  
Venue: Aspects, London W1.  
Details: 01-580 7563.

Thursday  
The lack of investment in the building industry in the north of England, conference and exhibition organised by the Chartered Institute of Building.  
Venue: Bodington Hall, Leeds.  
Details: (075 786) 360.

Friday — May 3  
Tapestries by Maria Rogoyaska and glass by Steven Newell.  
Venue: British Crafts Centre, London WC2.  
Details: Vanessa Swann, 01-836 6993.

## Last chance

Until Saturday  
Sixteen studios, exhibition of work by artists living in and around Oxford.  
Venue: Museum of Modern Art, Oxford.  
Details: (0865) 722 733.

Until Saturday  
Ewen Henderson, potter — a retrospective view, 1970-1986.  
Venue: British Crafts Council, London WC2.  
Details: 01-836 6993.

Until Monday  
Sisal Snakes and Snails, exhibition of small paintings by Lucy Voelecker.  
Venue: Wren at St James', London W1. Monday-Saturday, 10.30-6pm; Sunday 10.30am-1pm.

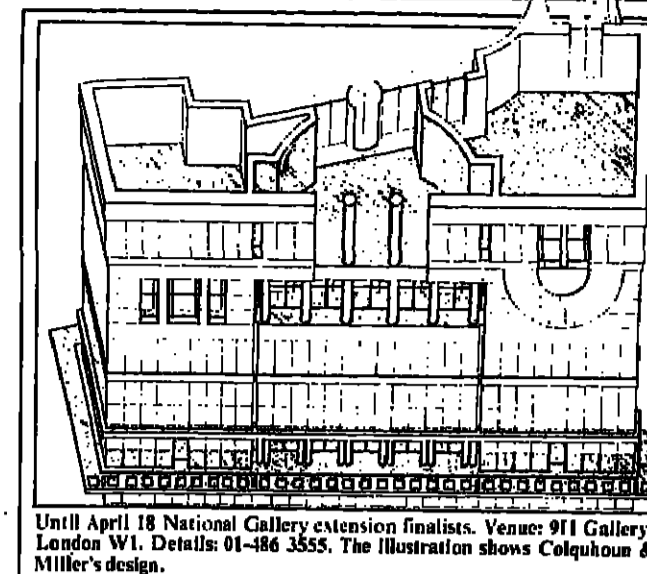
Until Monday  
Hugh McKenzie's London.  
Venue: Barbican Centre, London EC2.  
Details: 01-638 4141.

Until Monday  
Philip Wilson Steer: paintings and watercolours, exhibition organised by the Fitzwilliam Museum and the Arts Council.  
Venue: Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge.  
Details: (0223) 69501.

Until Wednesday  
Geoffrey Bawa.  
Venue: RIBA, London W1.  
Details: 01-580 5533.

Until Thursday  
Light Circus, exhibition of the work of Jo Brocklehurst.  
Venue: Frances Kyle Gallery, London W1.  
Details: 01-499 6870.

Until April 5  
Une volonté de fer, exposition of the work of Norman Foster, organised by the Institut Français d'Architecture.  
Venue: Institut Français d'Architecture, Paris 6.  
Details: 01-637 5431.



Until April 18 National Gallery extension finalists. Venue: 911 Gallery, London W1. Details: 01-486 3555. The illustration shows Colquhoun & Miller's design.

## Coming soon

April 8  
New York, lecture by Steven Jones as part of the "Great 19th century cities" series organised by the Victorian Society.  
Venue: Leighton House, London W4.  
Details: 01-994 1019.

April 8-9  
Steel portal frames course.

Until April 27  
Art and time.  
Venue: Barbican Centre, London EC2.  
Details: 01-638 4141.

Until April 27  
Matthew Smith.  
Venue: Barbican Centre, London EC2.  
Details: 01-638 4141.

Until April 27  
40 years of modern art.  
Venue: Tate Gallery, London SW1.  
Details: 01-821 1313.

## Exhibitions

Until April 12  
New directions in stained glass.  
Venue: Building Centre, London WC1.  
Details: 01-637 1022.

Until April 19  
Turning points in Scottish architecture, drawings from the RIAS collection.  
Venue: Talbot Rice Arts Centre, University of Edinburgh.  
Details: Neil Baxter, 031-229 7205.

Until April 19  
Humbly Grove College of Education school of architecture staff and students exhibition.  
Venue: Posterngate Gallery, Hull.  
Details: (0482) 222 745.

Until April 20  
Architecture and utopias: visions of perfection.  
Venue: Ferens Art Gallery, Hull.  
Details: (0482) 222 750.

Until April 22  
Nies van der Rohe — continental

exhibition.  
Venue: Museum of Modern Art, New York.

Until April 26  
Eight contemporary German architects.  
Venue: Heinz Gallery, London W1.  
Details: 01-580 5533.

Until April 27  
Art and time.  
Venue: Barbican Centre, London EC2.  
Details: 01-638 4141.

Until April 27  
Matthew Smith.  
Venue: Barbican Centre, London EC2.  
Details: 01-638 4141.

Until April 27  
40 years of modern art.  
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Details: 01-821 1313.

## People

Howard & Unkles have opened an office in London at 135 Wardour Street, London W1V 4AP. Tel: 01-734 1400.

Offekid have moved to the New Mill, Millers Way, 1a Shepherds Bush Road, Hammersmith, London W6 7NA. Tel: 01-749 3911 and 01-242 5722.

Christopher Gilmore has been appointed director of KSG Design Services, the design practice within the Kyle Stewart Group.

Philip McCulloch announced the formation of McCulloch Associates Architects at 274 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4JR. Tel: 041-332 4384.

Bruce Associates have moved to 20 Dock Street, London E1 8JP. Tel: 01-481 2184.

R J Ward has been appointed director of market development of the Cement & Concrete Association.

Burley & Rodgers announce that Michael Hales has been made an associate of the practice.

Duncan Mackenzie has joined the Mackenzie Wheeler Partnership as a partner. The practice has moved to Embankment Studios, The Embankment, Putney, London SW15 1LB. Tel: 01-785 3044.

Paul Sharrock and Daniel Golberg have been made partners in the practice of Thomas Ford & Partners, chartered architects and surveyors. One England and James Ford have become associates.

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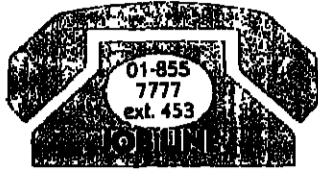
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Scale 6 - S.O. 1 (£7920-£10638)

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The department is multi-professional and the work programme, which is mainly housing, includes both major and minor projects. Applicants should be members of A.R.C.U.K. Senior Architects should be able to demonstrate a proven ability in contract management and team leadership.

Application forms and job descriptions are obtainable from the City Architect and Planning Officer's Department, 1 Hylton Road, Worcester WR2 6JP (Worcester 23471 Ext. 299).

Closing date for applications is 21st April, 1986.  
The Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

## Hunter + Partners

## SENIOR ARCHITECT

- Proven experience in commercial architecture, refurbishment and interior architecture.
- Highest standards of design skill and ability to control all aspects of project implementation.
- You wish to be part of the progressive development of a lively multi-professional practice.
- Minimum 4 years' post-qualification experience.
- Excellent package of salary benefits offered.

Please forward full career information to:

Ian Hurlstone, MA, Dip Arch, RIBA  
Hunter + Partners Architects  
8 Salford Place, London W1Y 5RF  
01-493 8200

# APPOINTMENTS

Applications from employees of the GLC or MCCs with relevant experience will be welcome.

## ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN

£7593-£8406 per annum inc

An experienced Technician is required to assist in the preparation of presentation and working drawings for a wide variety of projects. Carrying out surveys, site supervision and liaising with client departments will also form part of the duties.

Application forms and job description available from Borough Architect, P.O. Box 51, Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield EN1 3XB (telephone 01 386 6666 ext: 2042). Closing date 11.4.86. Please quote reference GRN/16.

London Borough of

**Enfield**

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## PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEER DESIGN TECHNICIAN

applications are invited for a Public Health Design Technician to join a multi discipline team of engineers working on a varied range of Public and Private sector projects.

The applicant should be capable of designing internal and external drainage systems, hot and cold water distribution.

The preferred age range will be 28 to 35 years and competitive salaries are negotiable.

In the first instance please send your personal and career resume to:

Bernard Barham, Hoare Lea & Partners,

Consulting Engineers, Evelyn House,

62 Oxford Street, London W1N 9LE.

## EDINBURGH OLD TOWN COMMITTEE FOR CONSERVATION AND RENEWAL

## DIRECTOR

The Committee, recently set up by the City of Edinburgh District Council to promote, stimulate and co-ordinate action for the conservation and renewal of the Mediaeval Old Town of Edinburgh, Scotland's ancient Capital, invites applications from men and women for the post of Director. SALARY will depend on experience but will be placed in the range £13,326-£16,203.

Further particulars can be obtained from the Edinburgh Old Town Committee, c/o Planning Department, 18 Market Street, Edinburgh EH1 1BJ.

Applicants should complete and return the basic questionnaire, together with a letter explaining their interest in the Old Town, and in the post, by Tuesday, 22nd April 1986.

## ARCHITECTS AND TECHNICIANS

We are seeking to recruit experienced architects and technicians to join the Technical Research Group which forms part of the office's central resource facility including the library and computer services. At present, the Group's primary objective is to provide technical and contractual advice throughout the Practice's four offices both on a day to day basis and by detailed technical and theoretical research projects.

Candidates should be enthusiastic and ambitious, seeking an interesting and rewarding career with promotion prospects within the Group. Previous experience in this field would be an advantage, but not essential.

Write with CV to David Potts at the address below:

## COVELL MATTHEWS WHEATLEY

## PARTNERSHIP

19 Bourdon Place, London W1X 9HZ

## MARLBOROUGH RECRUITMENT LIMITED

46-48 London Road, Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 3RG  
Telephone 01-891 0891

We are employment consultants who specialise in the placement of architectural, permanent and contract personnel and we have vacancies for Assistants/Technicians and Architects in London and Home Counties. For further details please phone Martin Marlbrough or Eileen Tierney.

## TRICKETT ASSOCIATES

Architects, Space Planners and

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

We are looking for an enthusiastic

ARCHITECT/DESIGNER

with 3-4 years job running experience. He/she will be required to work on a wide variety of space planning and interior projects.

Please reply with full C.V. to:—  
Miss Judith Mulvey, Trickett Associates,  
The Factory, 84 Marchmont Street, London WC1.

## CLERK OF WORKS

An experienced Clerk of Works is required to work on an interesting refurbishment and new-build project in the Thames Valley, west of Reading. The building contract will be £1m. and is to commence in June 1986, completion July 1987. Salary by negotiation.

Please reply in writing with C.V. to:  
Richard Marshall, Broadway & Nelson  
9 Bath Road, Reading, Berks. RG1 4AH  
Telephone: Reading 509051

## ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN

with good drawing ability for a wide range of work.

Please apply with C.V. to:—

David McIntyre,  
Chartered Architect,  
1 Carlton Parade, Preston Road, Wembley,  
Middlesex HA9 8NE.



## DRY/BUTLIN/BICKNELL/PARTNERSHIP

We are looking for the following people with a positive attitude, and a real commitment to design combined with technical and managerial skills.

## Project Architect

likely to have 8-15 years experience

## Architectural Assistant

with experience of large scale refurbishment projects

## Interior Designer

with minimum 5 years experience.

These opportunities exist for interesting hotel, leisure and entertainment projects within an expanding Richmond based practice.

Please reply in writing to Roger Bicknell

ARCHITECTS & INTERIOR DESIGNERS  
ST JOHN'S STUDIOS/CHURCH ROAD  
RICHMOND/SURREY/TW9 2QA  
TEL: 01-948 5322/6 / TELEX: 8811418

## LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING BOROUGH ARCHITECT'S DIVISION

## ARCHITECT/ SENIOR ARCHITECT

Grade PO1(a)/Bar/(d)  
Salary £11,573-£12,861/Bar/£14,001  
p.a. inclusive

Applications are invited for the posts of Architect/Senior Architect to handle a substantial and interesting workload in this busy office (the actual designation of the posts will depend on the qualifications and experience of the successful candidates). Applicants must be Registered Architects and preferably members of the Royal Institute of British Architects with a record of good design, to make a significant contribution to this multi-disciplinary organisation. A car allowance is payable in each case, and assistance may be given for temporary accommodation, lodging allowance, and return rail fares home, and on the purchase of a house in the area, legal costs and removal expenses.

For an application form and further information telephone Romford 48040 Ext. 2311 or 2312. Completed application forms are to be returned to the Borough Architect, Technical Office, Spilaby Road, Harold Hill, Romford RM3 8UU by 21st April 1986.

# APPOINTMENTS

**JACKSON GREENEN DOWN & PARTNERS**  
Architects & Town Planning Consultants  
require recently qualified  
**ARCHITECT**  
OR EXPERIENCED  
**TECHNICIAN**  
Hinton Buildings  
Hinton Rd  
Bournemouth  
BH1 2DZ  
Tel: 0202 26266

## YAKELEY ASSOCIATES Cambridge

We require several architects with 5-10 years experience to work in our Cambridge office on a wide variety of interesting projects. Candidates should have proven design ability and be capable of taking responsibility and initiative.

Non smokers preferred.

Typewritten CV's should be sent to:  
Stephan Yakeley  
Yakeley Associates Ltd, Architects  
Lloyds House, Regent Street  
Cambridge CB2 1BQ  
Telephone (0223) 69838

North West Hertfordshire Health Authority  
Applications are invited for the following post in the District  
Works Department, based at St Albans City Hospital.

### Works Officer 1 (Building)

Scale £9295-£10,914 plus £149 Fringe Allowance  
To assist in the preparation of small Building Works Schemes and to maintain the estates records systems. Much of the work is expected to be on the drawing board and the post should suit an architectural draughtsman who is capable of measuring on site and transferring the information on to paper.

Minimum qualifications HNC or HNC Building or equivalent. Day release for further study may be possible.

For informal enquiries, application form and job description contact Don Hanson, District Building Officer, District Works Office, Mid Herts Wing, Church Crescent, St Albans, Herts. Tel St Albans 66122 ext 349. Closing date: 18 April 1988.

## Hunter + Partners

### ARCHITECTS

At least 3 years' post-registration experience. Top salaries for proven ability and talent.

### ASSISTANTS

Part II qualified graduates, or experienced assistants looking for better prospects later in their careers.

### YEAR-OUT STUDENTS

Part I graduates, starting summer. Send photocopies of your work.

Please forward full career information to:  
Ian Hurlstone, MA, Dip Arch, RIBA  
Hunter + Partners Architects  
8 Balfour Place, London W1Y 5RF  
01-493 8200

### NORTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE/OXFORDSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN or ASSISTANT

urgently required to join lively young practice operating over a wide area. Sound knowledge of construction and appreciation of good design essential.

Reply with C.V. to:  
The Wallace & Hoblyn Partnership  
St Dunstons House  
Moreton-In-Marsh, Gloucestershire GL16 0LT  
or Phone 0608 50490

### ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIANS

with around 5 years experience and a sound knowledge of building construction to work on a variety of interesting projects in the U.K.

Please write with C.V. to:-  
Mountford Pigott Partnership,  
3 Cromwell Place,  
South Kensington SW7 2JQ.  
Tel: 01-589 1242

### Small busy Practice requires YOUNG ARCHITECT

design ability, enthusiasm, flexibility and job running experience essential. Enthusiastic, competent

### TECHNICIANS

required for several projects in our London office. Write with CV and salary details to:  
Simon Child  
Goldcliff, CH4, 33 Fitzroy Street, London W1P 6ED

## Subscription details

Building Design is published weekly and sent free of charge to registered architects working in the UK and selected members of allied trades. Subscription rates: one year £30, overseas £80, single copies 60p. Orders to: Subscription Dept, Morgan-Grampian (Construction Press) Ltd, Royal Sovereign House, 40 Brasford Street, London SE18 6BQ (01-864 2200).

Applications from employees of the GLC or MCCS with relevant experience will be welcome.

### Clerk of Works Up to £10284 p.a.

Vacancies exist in the Borough Architect's Department for experienced Clerk of Works to supervise a wide range of building projects, including Major Improvements and Energy Conservation schemes. The successful applicants will be expected to achieve a high level of quality control and ensure contractors meet health and safety requirements.

Applicants must have suitable experience in the construction industry, including supervision of contracts, and Membership of the Institute of Clerk of Works will be a distinct advantage.

Application forms obtainable from the Borough Architect, PO Box 51, Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield, Middlesex EN1 3XB. Telephone 01 356 8885 ext. 2042. Closing date 11.4.88. Please quote reference GRN/21.

London Borough of  
**Enfield**  
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### GLASGOW DISTRICT COUNCIL An Equal Opportunity Employer

### PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT ASSISTANT AREA LANDSCAPE OFFICER £8154-£10,308

A suitably qualified and/or experienced person is required to provide a full Landscape Design service within the South West Area of Glasgow. The successful applicant will have an excellent opportunity to gain wide ranging experience in all aspects of Landscape Design, with projects funded by various agencies and executed both by direct labour and by contract.

Applicants should be able to demonstrate an ability to take projects from conception to completion and to work in a corporate manner with other Council departments, community groups and other public agencies.

All vacancies are open to suitably qualified disabled persons. Superannuation, sick pay and free life assurance schemes in operation, along with a 35 hour week. Generous relocation expenses payable in appropriate cases.

Application forms available from the Personnel Manager, Parks and Recreation Department, Personnel Section, 20 Tongate, Glasgow G1 6ES (Tel: 041-227 5110) to be completed and returned by Friday 11th April 1988.

(PLEASE QUOTE REF: BD/13/86)

**GLASGOW'S MILES BETTER**

### THE HOGGETT AND DEWHIRST PARTNERSHIP

### SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN

Applications are invited from Technicians with a minimum of 6-7 years experience on commercial and industrial projects who wish to join a team in a progressive and cheerful office in Cardiff. A sound knowledge of building and construction is essential. The successful applicants must be willing to accept responsibility and to work on their own initiative.

### ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN

If you are at or near HNC standard and have 3-4 years experience of commercial projects and wish to further your career, apply in writing with C.V. stating expected salary range to:

Mr M W Bradshaw,  
The Hoggett and Dewhurst Partnership,  
New House, Thornhill, Cardiff CF4 5BU.

## NBDA

talented, experienced

### ARCHITECTS, ASSISTANTS & INTERIOR DESIGNERS

urgently required for a programme of exciting, large scale leisure projects.

We are looking for team leaders and other professionals with high skill levels who can contribute fully to the design and site supervision teams.

The successful applicants will be members of teams working on entertainment buildings, restaurants, swimming and water fun pools. Experience in these building types would be an advantage.

Positions are available in Richmond, Surrey, and South Manchester.

Please write enclosing C.V. to:  
Northern Building Design Associates  
31 Bramhall Lane South, Bramhall  
Stockport, Cheshire SK7 2DN

### ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS (2)

Sanctuary Housing Association is a national housing charity and has two small Architects teams in London undertaking a wide variety of new-build and rehab housing projects.

We have one vacancy in each office for enthusiastic Assistants. We need Senior Assistants at our Hackney office who must have experience of running rehab contracts. In Westminster we need a less experienced Assistant for a temporary post which might suit a part time student needing additional experience.

Salaries are an incremental scales, Hackney £10,023-£12,886. Westminster £8822-£11,236.

For further details telephone:

Valerie Plummer  
Sanctuary Housing Association  
Prospect House, Darkes Lane, Pottery Bar, Herts  
on 0707 48171

(the association is committed to an equal opportunities policy and welcomes applications from all sections of the community)

**Sanctuary**  
HOUSING ASSOCIATION

### PRINCIPAL LECTURER IN BUILDING SURVEYING

Salary £15,081-£18,667 inclusive

Applications are invited for this key appointment which is to commence 1st September 1988 in the Department of Building Economics. The department primarily offers BSc courses in Building Surveying by both sandwich and part-time study. It has an expanding research and consultancy role and is proud of its close links with the professions. The successful applicant will be expected to develop and expand these links and take a leading role in shaping the education of building surveyors. Ideally candidates will be chartered building surveyors with a higher degree who are able to demonstrate academic leadership and this successful management of other professionals. Please quote REF: BE/5.

### LECTURER II/SENIOR LECTURER IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

Salary £9,114-£18,083 inclusive

Applications are invited for a number of posts within the Department of Building Economics which are available from the 1st September 1988. The department is currently undergoing a period of vigorous evolution and the successful candidates will be expected to contribute to meeting the exciting challenges facing surveying education. The primary teaching role is in Construction Technology on the BSc courses in Building Surveying and Quantity Surveying. Teaching experience is not essential but enthusiasm and a willingness to become involved in research and development within the discipline are. Applicants should be graduates in an appropriate discipline preferably with membership of one of the Chartered Institutions of the Built Environment. Please quote REF: BE/4.

Application forms and further details for both of these posts are available from the Personnel Department, South Bank Polytechnic, Borough Road, London SE1 0AA. Tel: 01-598 3612 (answering service 9am-6pm).

For an informal discussion please contact Dr. A. Wilson, HOD, on 01-528 8989 ext. 7087.

Closing date: 18th April 1988.

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## C.A.D. users

We are looking for experienced C.A.D. users with a sound knowledge of building construction to join a busy computer department.

Please apply in writing, enclosing a C.V. to

Julla Goodman  
GMW Partnership  
P.O. Box 1BJ  
18 Manchester Square  
London W1A 1BJ

**GMW**  
Partnership

### DAVENTRY DISTRICT COUNCIL ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT TEMPORARY ASSISTANT ENGINEER/ VACATIONAL STUDENT Salary £4,773

Applications are invited from students currently undertaking a degree course in civil engineering for temporary vocational employment in a general municipal engineering office. This temporary post will provide opportunities for a student to gain experience in a design office.

Application forms and job descriptions are available from the Personnel and Management Services Officer by telephoning Daventry 71100 extension 222 and should be returned no later than 21st April 1988.

### THE GILLING DOD PARTNERSHIP require immediately ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN

with a minimum of 5 years experience to work in their south office, Olney, near Milton Keynes.

Applicants will need to demonstrate proven technical ability and be capable of undertaking all stages of an increasing workload. An opportunity exists for the right applicant to make a significant contribution to an expanding office.

Apply in writing with C.V. to:

Mr R. N. Linford  
The Gilling Dod Partnership  
Cunard Building  
Liverpool L3 1EZ  
Interviews will be arranged at Olney.

### WYCHAVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

### ARCHITECT

Salary £9,975-£11,064 p.a.

An opportunity exists for a fully qualified Architect to work with a small team in our Droitwich based Department of Planning and Architecture, designing and improving houses, OAP bungalows, flats, sheltered schemes, plus some involvement with leisure and office buildings.

Wychavon covers 260sq miles of rural Worcestershire and includes the market town of Evesham, Georgian Pershore, the spa town of Droitwich and the world famous village of Broadway.

Essential Car User Allowance. Relocation expenses payable in appropriate cases.

Previous applicants need not re-apply.

Job description and application form from:-  
The Personnel Officer, 53 Head St., Pershore, Worcs. WR10 1DA  
Tel: 0386 393064 (9.45hr Answer service)  
Closing Date: 11th April Please quote ref AAP8

## New Forest

### Architectural Assistant

Scale 3-SO1 (£6,234-£10,638)

The postholder will be a member of an architectural group responsible for the design and contract supervision of projects within the Council's Housing Investment Programme, together with other works. Candidates possessing Part IIBA or MSAAT must have a sound knowledge of building construction, be capable of producing design and working drawings pursuant to the preparation of Bills of Materials and to subsequently carry out contract administration under the minimum of supervision.

The Architectural Division of the Technical Department is housed in new office premises at Lymington, a pleasant South Hampshire coastal town. The post carries an essential user car allowance subject to a maximum of 1450cc and requires the postholder to provide a car for official duties. In approved cases the Council offer full removal expenses, lodging allowance and up to £3,170 towards the cost of other relocation expenses.

Application forms and job descriptions are available from the Personnel Section, New Forest District Council, Appletree Court, Lymington, Hampshire SO4 7PA, telephone Lymington (042 128) 3121 Ext. 173, quoting post T18.

Closing date for receipt of completed application forms: 11th April 1988.

# APPOINTMENTS

### CLERK OF WORKS

Building and Civil Engineering Clerk of Works with a minimum of 10 years experience required to work on phase 1 of a refurbishment of existing facilities to provide a Contingency Hospital at RAF Bicester. The value of the contract is approximately £1.5 million and a possible start date is July 1988.

Salary will be by negotiation.

Please contact:

Michael Drew  
The Oxford Architects Partnership  
Begley Croft, Hinksey Hill  
Oxford OX1 5BS  
Tel: 0845 730033

### ARCHITECT

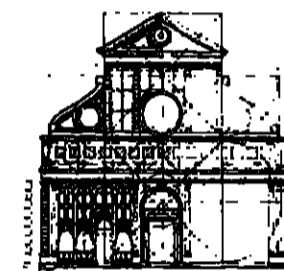
c. £15,000

We are a London based practice at the early stages of a scheme for a very large town centre project including shopping, leisure, and parking which is to be built near London. We are looking for a highly talented and motivated Architect with job running experience to take charge of a group within the overall project team.

Apply to:

Box No. 6984  
c/o Building Design  
Morgan-Grampian  
30 Calderwood Street  
London SE18 6QH

### ARCHITECTS DESIGN PARTNERSHIP



ADP urgently requires the following staff:-  
QUALIFIED ARCHITECTS with 5/6 years post qualification experience for varied active workload at their Henley on Thames office.

Contact Partners Secretary on Henley (0491) 576151 with relevant details.

Nearly or recently qualified ARCHITECTS with some experience to work on a major project at their recently opened Yeovil office.

Contact Mrs. Chesterton on Yeovil (0935) 79833 with relevant details.

### CITY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT

### Asbestos Removal Group

A small specialist group consisting of Co-ordinator, two Technical Assistants and one Quantity Surveyor is to be established to develop the organisation and administration of contracts for the removal of asbestos from the Council's buildings.

### THE CO-ORDINATOR

PO1/2 £11,280-£12,885

Will be responsible under the direction of the Principal Building Services Engineer for the identification of asbestos in buildings in conjunction with the Central Unit on Asbestos, for organising contracts to ensure its safe removal and replacement with appropriate materials.

Assistance and guidance will be provided to job architects encountering asbestos and where appropriate responsibility for dealing with the asbestos will be taken over. It will be necessary for applicants to have a knowledge of all legislation and working practices concerning asbestos including health and safety regulations. Experience of asbestos removal in buildings and particularly in heating systems is important and recent experience of dealing with asbestos materials in building would be beneficial.

### TWO ASSISTANT ARCHITECT/ ENGINEERS

Scale 1/502 £3,006-£11,604

Will be required to undertake relevant design work and supervise the removal of asbestos as detailed above under the supervision of the Co-ordinator. Applications are invited from persons having an engineering background.

### QUANTITY SURVEYOR

Scale 1/502 £3,006-£11,604

To deal with tender procurement, valuation and accounts in connection with the removal of asbestos. This officer will also be required to assist in other areas of the general quantity surveying workload as and when appropriate. A 5 day week of 35 hours is in operation under a system of flexible working hours. The City Council operates a Union Membership Agreement under which a new employee is required to become a member of a recognised trade union.

Application forms are available from The City Architect's Department, Town Hall, Manchester M6 8BT. Telephone No. 061-234 4907. Closing date: 18/4/88.

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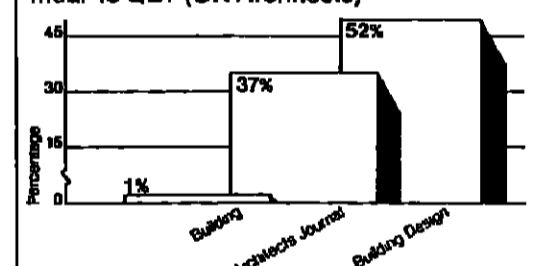
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The work will be challenging and varied, as associated with a multi-disciplined operation engaged in commercial, industrial and leisure projects.

The position offers an attractive salary and conditions of employment, and will include a Company car.

Applicants of either sex should write forwarding relevant details of education and experience to The Company Architect: R.E.M. Drury, R.I.B.A., Norwest Holst Project Services Ltd., Astral House, Imperial Way, Watford, Herts WD2 4YX.

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